

Monthly Current Affairs

AUGUST – 2022



**Shankar
School of
Banking**

**Plot No 1742, 1st Floor, 18th Main Road,
Anna Nagar West, Chennai – 600 040.
Tamil Nadu.**

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NATIONAL NEWS

First All India DLSAs Meet

- ★ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first All India District Legal Services Authorities meet in New Delhi.
- ★ It was organized by the National Legal Services Authority.
- ★ There are a total of 676 District Legal Services Authorities in the country. They are headed by the District Judge who acts as the chairman of the authority.
- ★ Through DLSAs and State Legal Services Authorities, various legal aid and awareness programmes are implemented by National Legal Services Authority.
- ★ He also stressed the need for the usage of modern information tools to enhance the pace of justice delivery.
- ★ Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana announced that strengthening the district's judiciary is the need of the hour and it is a driving force behind the legal aid movement in the country.

Chhattisgarh CM Launched 'Mukhyamantri Mahtari Nyay Rath'

- ★ Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on the occasion of Hareli Tihaar festival launched the Mukhyamantri Mahtari Nyay Rath with the aim of making the women of the state aware of their constitutional rights and laws.
- ★ The CM also administered the oath of protection, justice and empowerment of women.
- ★ "chariots" flagged off will travel through the districts informing people about legal provisions of women and constitutional rights through shorts films and brochures.
- ★ Each chariot will have two lawyers, who will listen to the grievances of women and provide information and advice.
- ★ Women will also be able to submit their applications for the resolution of their grievances to the Women's Commission through these chariots.

President's Colour to Tamil Nadu Police

- ★ Vice President Venkaiah Naidu presented the President's colour to the Tamil Nadu Police.
- ★ The President's Colour is the highest honour given to the military, paramilitary and police forces of States and Union Territories.
- ★ The State of Tamil Nadu ranks second in the list of more women in the police force and the State was the first to create a women commando force.
- ★ Tamil Nadu is the only State to have a police unit to investigate smuggling of idols and statues.

Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme

- ★ The Prime Minister launched the Ministry of Power's flagship Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme on 30 July 2022.
- ★ It is aimed at improving the operational efficiencies and financial sustainability of Distribution Companies and power departments.
- ★ With an outlay of ₹3,03,758 crore over a period of five years from FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26, the scheme aims to provide financial assistance to DISCOMs for modernization and strengthening of distribution infrastructure, aiming at improvement of the reliability and quality of supply to end consumers.
- ★ It is also proposed to provide 25 crore Smart Prepaid meters to consumers all over the country.

New Logo for 'Ayurveda Aahar'

- ★ The "Ayurveda Aahar" Logo become released with the aid of using Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, at the event World Food Safety Day.
- ★ The Ayurveda Aahar Logo will permit smooth identification.
- ★ It will assist in growing a unique Identity of "Ayurveda Aahar".
- ★ The Logo may even improve the best of Ayurvedic products.
- ★ As consistent with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Ayurveda Aahar is meals organized consistent with the recipes or components or strategies given withinside the authoritative books of Ayurveda.

Indian Navy Receives Multi-Role Helicopters

- ★ The Indian Navy received two MH 60R multi-role helicopters from the United States at Cochin International Airport. The helicopters were delivered by the Special Air Assignment Mission Flight of the US Air Force.
- ★ The helicopters were part of the 24 MH 60 R Multirole helicopters being procured by India from the United States at a cost of over 14,000 crore rupees.
- ★ The first three helicopters delivered last year in the US in 2021 are being utilized for training the Indian Navy crew.

Ex VINBAX 2022

- ★ The Third Edition of Vietnam-India Bilateral Army Exercise "Ex VINBAX 2022" is scheduled to be conducted at Chandimandir from August 1 to August 20, 2022.
- ★ India and Vietnam share a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and defence cooperation is a key pillar of this partnership. Vietnam is an important partner in India's Act East policy and the Indo-Pacific vision.
- ★ The conduct of Ex VINBAX - 2022 as a field training exercise with enhanced scope from previous editions of bilateral exercise will strengthen mutual confidence, inter-operability and enable sharing of best practices between the Indian Army and Vietnam People's Army.

- ★ The joint exercise will also provide an opportunity to the troops of both the Contingents to learn about the social and cultural heritage of each other.
- ★ Indian Army is being represented by troops from the 105 Engineer Regiment.

West Bengal to Get 7 New Districts

- ★ Mamata Banerjee, the chief minister of West Bengal announced that the state will get 7 new districts in the state to simplify administrative operations.
- ★ Earlier there were 23 districts in Bengal. With this, the total number of districts in West Bengal has now gone up to 30.
- ★ The seven new districts include Sunderban, Ichhamati, Ranaghat, Bishnupur, Jangipur, Behrampur and one more district will be named in Basirhat.

IISc and Indian Navy Ink Pact to Boost Self-Reliance

- ★ The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and the Indian navy have signed an MoU to collaborate on aviation research and development.
- ★ Under this, IISc would aid navy to ramp up self-reliance efforts.
- ★ The areas of collaboration for joint research include aerospace/aeronautical engineering, design and education technology.
- ★ Other key specialisation includes propulsion and propulsion systems, steel technology, metallurgy and material science and corrosion science, systems and controls, instrumentation and sensors, etc.

Arunachal Pradesh Inks Tripartite Pact

- ★ The Arunachal Pradesh government inked a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NITI Aayog and an organisation for a large-scale transformation in school education.
- ★ It is a three-year partnership (2022 – 2025) agreement focusing on the enhancement of the learning outcome of students across 3,000 plus government schools in the state thereby by reaching out to over two lakh children.
- ★ The agreement was signed on the second anniversary of the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- ★ The school education transformation project is under NITI Aayog's Development Support Services for States (DSSS) initiative.

Eggs and Milk Scheme for Anganwadis Children

- ★ Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated a project of the Women and Child Development department to provide milk and eggs to children at all anganwadis in the state
- ★ The introduction of milk and eggs for anganwadi children is intended to improve their nutritional parameters and assumes significance as ending hunger is one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations.
- ★ The state government has set aside over ₹61.5 crore to include milk and eggs in the anganwadi menu in 2022.

- ★ Under this scheme, which is considered as a first in the country each child will be given 125 ml of milk two days a week for 44 weeks (10 months) and an egg twice a week.

Six National Highway projects in Madhya Pradesh

- ★ Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 6 National Highway projects of 119 KMs worth 2300 Crore rupees in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
- ★ The development of the Dhar-Pithampur Industrial Corridor will create new employment opportunities.
- ★ During this programme MoU was signed between the State government and NHAI for the construction of ropeways at 14 selected places in Madhya Pradesh.

Chabahar Day Conference in Mumbai

- ★ Union Shipping Minister Sarbanand Sonowal and Minister of State for Shipping Shripad Naik inaugurated the Chabahar Day conference in Mumbai.
- ★ Representatives from Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan took part in the conference.
- ★ Chabahar port will be part of the International North-South Transport Corridor network connecting India.
- ★ Chabahar port will open new avenues for India and Eurasian countries and it is an important pillar of India's Indo-Pacific vision to connect Eurasia with the Indian Ocean Region.

Online Cab Service 'Kerala Savari'

- ★ The Government of Kerala is set to launch its online taxi service called "Kerala Savari".
- ★ The new service would be launched at a function to be held at Kanakakunnu Palace on the beginning day of the Malayalam month of Chingam on 17 August 2022.
- ★ The project will be implemented by the Motor Workers Welfare Board with the cooperation of the Planning Board, Legal Metrology, Transport, IT and Police Departments.
- ★ Indian Telephone Industries, Palakkad, a public sector organization, provided technical assistance for the project.

FICCI Sign MoU with IPICOL

- ★ Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha (IPICOL) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) signed an MoU.
- ★ FICCI is the National Industry Partner for the 'Make in Odisha Conclave 2022', which is scheduled to be held from 30 November to 04 December 2022.
- ★ This is the third edition of the Make in Odisha Conclave.
- ★ Odisha has become a destination of choice for industries in the metal and allied sectors owing to our natural resources and ecosystem advantage.

- ★ The Government has proactively taken measures to broad base the industrial ecosystem in the state with focus sectors like chemicals and petrochemicals.

BEL to Supply Anti-submarine Warfare Systems

- ★ Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has signed ₹50 crore contract with the Ministry of Defence to supply 9 integrated Systems – an Integrated Anti-submarine Warfare system for all surface ships of the Indian Navy.
- ★ It has been indigenously developed by BEL in association with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- ★ The Anti-submarine Warfare system comprises fire control solutions and it facilitates the firing of ASW weapons such as torpedoes and rockets.
- ★ BEL has been manufacturing multi-product, multi-technology, multi-unit conglomerates, which offer products and systems in the areas of Military communications and missile and naval systems.

Indian Oil signs MoU with NTCA

- ★ Indian Oil signed an MoU with National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for transcontinental relocation of 'Cheetah' in its historical range in India.
- ★ This is in continuation with the MoU signed on 20th July 2022 between Government of India and Government of the Republic of Namibia on wildlife conservation and sustainable biodiversity utilization, for establishing the cheetah into the historical range in India.
- ★ Indian Oil will be contributing ₹50.22 crore in 4 years for the project components through Cheetah Introduction, its Habitat Management & Protection, Eco Development and Staff Training and Veterinary Healthcare.
- ★ Indian Oil is the first corporate which has come forward to support the “Project Cheetah” under Corporate Social Responsibility.
- ★ Under this project, a source population of 8-10 Cheetahs will be flown in from Namibia and South Africa and will be introduced at Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh.
- ★ It is a national project involving National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), Government of India and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Airbus Partners with GMR Group

- ★ Airbus has signed a contract with the GMR Group, a leading Indian aviation infrastructure developer, to provide aircraft maintenance training to young aviation engineers in India.
- ★ GMR will provide the fully integrated Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME) licensing program at the GMR School of Aviation in Hyderabad.
- ★ The four-year course will include two years of classroom training and a two-year training in maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) at GMR Aero Technic in Hyderabad followed by Aircraft Type Training.

- ★ Airbus will provide the necessary software and courseware in the form of trainee handbooks, examination database, online access of Airbus customised basic training modules and Airbus Competence Training (ACT).

5ire Signs Pact with Goa Police

- ★ Goa Police has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with blockchain network, 5ire to take its processes digital.
- ★ The MoU will create a public-private partnership between 5ire and Goa Police for implementing a smart policing solution to improve transparency and efficiency in policing.
- ★ The blockchain-based smart policing solutions by 5ire can record all official activities accurately, allowing police to help the citizens with traceability to their records and evidence.
- ★ With this Goa will become the first police station in India to go completely paperless.

World's Largest Floating Solar Power Plant in MP

- ★ The World's largest Floating solar energy project is to be constructed at Omkareshwar dam on Narmada River in Madhya Pradesh.
- ★ It will be operational by 2023 and the project is estimated to be worth over ₹3000 crores.
- ★ The plant would be located on Omkareshwar dam in Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh
- ★ The panels are capable to adjust their position automatically when the water levels of the dam are low.
- ★ Three agencies namely International Finance Corporation, World Bank and Power Grid would be providing aid for the project.
- ★ India has completed the primary feasibility study of the project in collaboration with the World Bank.

Various Projects of Shrimad Rajchandra Mission in Gujarat

- ★ Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various projects of the Shrimad Rajchandra Mission worth more than ₹300 crore at Dharampur in Gujarat.
- ★ The initiatives by the Shrimad Rajchandra Mission in the field of rural healthcare have strengthened the Vision of 'Healthy India'.
- ★ The modern healthcare facilities started by the Mission will benefit the rural, poor and tribal people of South Gujarat.
- ★ The PM also laid the foundation stone of the 150-bed Shrimad Rajchandra Animal Hospital.
- ★ The PM also laid the foundation stone of the Shrimad Rajchandra Center of Excellence for Women on the occasion.

10 More Indian Wetlands Get Ramsar Tag

- ★ The Union environment ministry announced that India has added 10 more wetlands, taking the total Ramsar sites to 64.

- ★ The 10 new sites include: six in Tamil Nadu and one each in Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.
- ★ The sites are Koothankulam Bird Sanctuary, Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve, Vembannur Wetland Complex, Vellode Bird Sanctuary, Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary and Udhayamarthandapuram Bird Sanctuary all in Tamil Nadu, Satkosia Gorge in Odisha, Nanda Lake in Goa, Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary in Karnataka and Sirpur Wetland in Madhya Pradesh.
- ★ It encompasses an area of 1,51,842.41 hectares, bringing India's total wetland area to 1.2 million hectares.
- ★ With 10 new protected wetlands, India equals China in having most Ramsar Sites.
- ★ Ramsar wetlands now comprise around 10% of the total wetland area in the country.

National Anti-Doping Bill 2021 Passed

- ★ Parliament has passed the National Anti-Doping Bill 2021.
- ★ The Bill prohibits athletes, athlete support personnel and other persons from engaging in doping.
- ★ Under the new legislation, violation of anti-doping rules may result in disqualification of results including forfeiture of medals, points and prizes, ineligibility to participate in a competition or event for a prescribed period, etc.

Centre Launches State University Research Excellence Scheme

- ★ The government launched State University Research Excellence scheme to enhance the research capabilities in a structured way to create a robust Research and Development ecosystem in state and private universities and colleges.
- ★ The new scheme will help bring the university system into mainstream research and enable the young faculty to participate in cutting-edge research.
- ★ He also emphasized the need to train the faculty of the universities on how to write and submit proposals, procurements and management of projects.

Amazon Partners with Indian Railways

- ★ Amazon India has partnered with the Indian Railways to boost its delivery services in the country.
- ★ Through this partnership, Amazon will transport customer packages in more than 110 inter-city routes, ensuring one-to-two-day delivery for its customer.
- ★ It became the first online delivery company to work with the Indian Railways to build an express transportation product through rail in 2019.

NPCI and IIT Kanpur Signs MoU

- ★ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- ★ It has been signed for sharing knowledge on innovative ideas and to collaborate on the development of indigenous digital payments solutions.

- ★ The collaboration will help in the augmentation of cybersecurity controls for NPCI and its subsidiaries' products and services.
- ★ This collaboration with NCPI further strengthens its goal to achieve a holistic cyber secure ecosystem for our country.

K-DISC Signs MoU with LinkedIn

- ★ LinkedIn, the world's largest professional network, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC) and the ICT Academy of Kerala under the Kerala Knowledge Economy Mission (KKEM) initiative.
- ★ This partnership aims to boost the employability skill among the youth of Kerala and aggravate relevant jobs for them using LinkedIn talent insights and learning tools.
- ★ Different products and services of LinkedIn will be made available for students.
- ★ It will also coach students on creating their online professional brand.

NHA Joins Hands with Quality Council of India

- ★ The National Health Authority (NHA) has partnered with the Quality Council of India (QCI) for six months.
- ★ The objective is to accredit and rate HMIS (Health Management Information System) and LMIS (Laboratory Information Management System) solutions that have integrated with Ayushman Bharata Digital Mission (ABDM).
- ★ It includes ease of usage, user interface, pricing, number of features and value for money/pricing so that prospective purchasers may get credible information.

IFFCO Nano Urea Spraying Scheme

- ★ Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel launched the Indian Farmers' Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) Nano Urea Spraying Scheme statewide from Isanpur Mota village of Gandhinagar district through drone technology.
- ★ The scheme is a 100 per cent state-funded scheme for promoting the use of drones in the agricultural sector and is supposed to cut down the agricultural cost and increase the income of the farmers.
- ★ The provision of 35 crore rupees has been made for the scheme in the current financial year 2022-2023.
- ★ This scheme will help to save water and spraying of urea with 25 litres of water in one hectare of land can be completed within 20 minutes through the use of drone technology.

ISS India Partners with DSEU

- ★ The Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) has signed agreement with ISS Facility Services India.
- ★ The agreement has been signed in order to train students enrolled in the BBA (Facilities and Hygiene Management) programme.

- ★ The company will assist DSEU with curriculum advisory, faculty and staff development workshops, internships and placement support along with six scholarships to high-performing and needy students.

Machhal Women's Cricket League

- ★ In north Kashmir, Indian Army alongwith local authorities organised the first ever Machhal Women's Cricket League.
- ★ The girls from Machhal, Pushwari and Dudi villages participated.
- ★ The Indian Army organized this league to engage the youth of border districts residing along the Line of Control (LOC), in sport activities.

Indian Navy with ISRO's Space Applications Centre

- ★ The Indian Navy has signed an MoU with the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) Space Applications Centre (SAC) in Ahmedabad.
- ★ This MoU is on data sharing and cooperation on satellite-based naval applications in oceanology and meteorology.
- ★ With this initiative, both organisations will have a common platform of mutual cooperation, where the scientific advancements by SAC would be synergised into the Indian Naval efforts.
- ★ It is to keep the nation's defence in step with rapid development in the field of satellite data retrieval and applications.
- ★ This MoU is an extension of the previous MoU signed in 2017 and will further the collaboration between the two organisations.

Pashmina Wool Development Scheme

- ★ The Ministry of Textiles has approved Pashmina Wool Development Scheme under Integrated Wool Development Programme (IWDP) with a budget allocation of ₹29.25 Crore for implementation during FY from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- ★ A provision has been made under the HRD component of IWDP regarding awareness and training to wool growers including UT of Jammu & Kashmir as well as pashmina Nomads of UT of Ladakh region
- ★ A project to set up a Dehairing plant along with ancillary machines at Leh, UT of Ladakh with the project cost of ₹19.75 Cr. has been sanctioned and out of it ₹12.92 Cr. has been released.

Goa to Implement 100%NEP

- ★ Chief Minister of Goa Pramod Sawant announced that the Goa government will implement a hundred percent of the syllabus in the higher education institutions along the lines of the National Education Policy from the next academic year.
- ★ It was announced in the seventh NITI Aayog Governing Council meeting held in New Delhi.
- ★ The implementation has already begun in the state-run and aided schools.
- ★ Karnataka became the first state in the country to implement NEP in 2021.

DFI and Army Design Bureau

- ★ Army Design Bureau (ADB) signed a memorandum of understanding with Drone Federation of India (DFI) to develop high-impact drones for Indian soldiers.
- ★ DFI is an industry body that has Asteria Aerospace, Quidich Innovation Labs, AutoMicroUAS, Aarav Unmanned Systems and Indrones as its members.
- ★ As a part of their collaboration, DFI and ADB will be launching an event titled 'Indian Army's Him-Drone-a-thon', under which proposals will be invited for the development of drone-based solutions for supporting Indian Army operations in the harsh Himalayan terrains.
- ★ Under the MoU, DFI and ADB will collaborate on roadmap planning, research, testing, manufacturing and adoption of drones, counter-drone and associated technologies that are to be utilised by the Indian Army in its operations.

7th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog

- ★ Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the seventh meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog at Rashtrapati Bhawan Cultural Centre, New Delhi.
- ★ The Governing Council discussed the agenda items which included crop diversification and achieving self-sufficiency in oilseeds, pulses and agri-commodities, implementation of the National Education Policy and urban governance.
- ★ The Prime Minister highlighted the importance of all of these issues especially the need for India to focus on modernized agriculture, animal husbandry and food processing to become self-sufficient and a global leader in the agriculture sector.
- ★ He also discussed that India will host the G20 Presidency and Summit on 2022. Presidency for India for the federal system and the role that states can play in highlighting their progress at the G-20 platform.

Microsoft Becomes First to Join Open Network

- ★ Microsoft has become the first big tech company to join Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).
- ★ It is an Indian government-backed platform created to provide a level playing field to all e-commerce companies.
- ★ Through ONDC it intends to introduce social e-commerce in the Indian market.
- ★ It will also launch a shopping app in India, which will be available on the ONDC network and will allow buyers to discover the best price offered by retailers and sellers.

DefExpo to be Held in Gandhinagar

- ★ The 12th edition of DefExpo - India's flagship exhibition on Land, Naval and Homeland Security systems will be held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat between 18 October and 22 October 2022.
- ★ The theme of DefExpo 2022 is 'Path to Pride'.
- ★ DefExpo 2022 is in line with the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to achieve self-reliance in defence and achieve export of \$5 billion by 2025.

- ★ It is Asia's largest exhibition. The five-day event will witness three business days followed by two public days.

Second Generation Ethanol Plant

- ★ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has dedicated to the nation the Second-Generation Ethanol Plant at Panipat in Haryana virtually.
- ★ The Second-Generation Ethanol plant will strengthen the effort to boost production and usage of biofuels in the country.
- ★ It will generate around 3 crore litres of Ethanol per annum.
- ★ It has been built at an estimated cost of over ₹900 crore by the Indian Oil Corporation Limited.
- ★ Ethanol blending in petrol in the country increased to around 8 percent in the last 7 to 8 years.
- ★ With this country has saved at least 50 thousand crore rupees following the introduction of Ethanol blending process and the amount diverted to the farmers.
- ★ India's first ethanol plant was inaugurated in Purnia, Bihar in April 2022.

Extension of PMAY-Urban

- ★ Union Cabinet has approved continuation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) - Housing for All Mission till 31st December 2024.
- ★ Financial assistance is being provided for the completion of already sanctioned over 122 lakh houses till 31st March 2022.
- ★ It will help in completion of already sanctioned houses under Beneficiary Led Construction and Affordable Housing in Partnership.
- ★ The scheme is one of the major flagship programmes being implemented by Central Government to provide all-weather pucca houses to all eligible beneficiaries in the urban areas of the country through States, Union Territories and Central Nodal Agencies.
- ★ Central Assistance approved since 2015 is two lakh three thousand crore rupees against 20 thousand crore rupees in 2004-2014.

The 22nd 'Bharat Rang Mahotsav'

- ★ The 22nd "Bharat Rang Mahotsav" was officially launched at Rabindra Natya Mandir in Mumbai by Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari.
- ★ The Union Ministry of Culture and P.L. Deshpande Maharashtra Kala Akademi in the city are working together to organize the five-day theatre festival as a homage to our liberation heroes.
- ★ From July 16 to August 14, 2022, 30 plays will be presented as a part of the 22nd Bharat Rang Mahotsav (Azadi Segment) in Delhi, Bhubaneshwar, Varanasi, Amritsar, Bengaluru and Mumbai.

National Conference of Rural Cooperative Banks

- ★ Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the day-long National Conference of Rural Cooperative Banks in New Delhi.
- ★ The conference was organized by the Ministry of Cooperation and the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks (NAFSCOB).
- ★ During the conference, he will also present Performance Awards to select State Cooperative Banks, District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs), or PACS and felicitate a few short-term cooperative credit institutions for 100 years of service.
- ★ The National Federation of State Cooperative Banks was established on 19th May 1964 with the broad objective to facilitate the operations of State and Central Cooperative Banks and development of a short-term cooperative credit structure.
- ★ NAFSCOB provides a common forum for its members and their affiliates or shareholders or owners to project their achievements, focus their concerns, and promote their interests.

Hollongi Greenfield Airport named 'Donyi Polo' Airport

- ★ The Arunachal Pradesh government has approved the naming of the under-construction Hollongi greenfield airport near Itanagar as "Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar" which will start operations in 15 August 2022.
- ★ The proposed airport will be the first in Arunachal Pradesh with a runway of 2,300 meters making it ideal for operating Boeing 747s, one of the largest passenger aircraft.
- ★ It has been built at a cost of ₹645 crores under the Centre's Capital Connectivity Scheme, which has been designed to accommodate A-320 aircraft.
- ★ The name of the airport, will symbolize the age-old tradition and rich cultural heritage of the tribal state and also will reflect the people's age-old indigenous reverence for the Sun (Donyi) and the Moon (Polo).

Scheme 'Nethanna Ku Bima' for Weavers

- ★ First time in India, Telangana Government has launched the 'Nethanna Ku Bima' Scheme which extends insurance coverage to handloom and power loom weavers in the state.
- ★ Handlooms Minister Shri KT Rama Rao virtually launched the scheme on National Handloom Day 2022.
- ★ Under the scheme, the Telangana government has joined hands with Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India for the 'Nethanna Beema' scheme and termed the state department of handlooms and textiles as the nodal agency for its implementation.
- ★ The annual premium of the beneficiaries will be paid by the government on their behalf to the LIC.
- ★ In case of natural or accidental death of a weaver, 5 lakh would be deposited into the nominees' account within 10 days.

Income Tax Payers won't be Eligible for APY

- ★ Income tax payers will not be allowed to enrol in the government's social security scheme Atal Pension Yojana (APY) from 01 October 2022 announced by Finance Ministry.
- ★ The government introduced APY on 01 June 2015, to provide social security to workers mainly in the unorganised sector.
- ★ Subscribers of the scheme get a minimum guaranteed pension of ₹1,000 to ₹5,000 per month after attaining 60 years of age depending on their contributions.
- ★ The new notification will not apply to subscribers who have joined or joins the scheme before 01 October 2022.
- ★ Under the income tax law, people having taxable income of up to ₹2.5 lakh are not required to pay income tax.
- ★ Currently, all Indian citizens between the age group of 18-40 years can join APY through bank or post office branches where one has the savings bank account.

Mobile App to Curb GST Evasion

- ★ The government of Kerala aims to curb GST evasion the app named 'Lucky Bill App' and it will be launched on 16 August 2022 by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.
- ★ The Kerala government is set to launch a mobile app where people can upload original bills and also stand a chance to win prizes.
- ★ The state government expects this will help increase tax collection as people will be encouraged to ask for bills while purchasing goods and availing services.
- ★ The government is looking for new ways to support the revenue and financial status of the state with this app.
- ★ The app is capable enough to help the state's GST department to examine return filings with the help of uploaded bills.

Village Defence Guard Scheme

- ★ The Village Defence Guard Scheme – 2022 came into effect in Jammu and Kashmir from 15 August 2022.
- ★ Ministry of Home Affairs has sanctioned approval to creation of Village Defence Guard Scheme – 2022 in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ★ The aim of this scheme is to organize a small group of volunteer armed civilians in the identified villages to instill self-protection and ensure security of villages.
- ★ Earlier, this scheme was known as Village Defence Committee in which volunteers from villages were trained by Indian Army and Police.
- ★ Under this scheme, rifles were provided to VDC's and they protected their villages from terrorist attacks and terror-related activities specially the vulnerable villages in mountainous areas of Jammu region.
- ★ VDC members had helped Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir Police in the fight against Terrorism.

India's First Intranasal Vaccine

- ★ Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) has completed clinical development for phase III trials and booster doses for BBV154 of COVID-19 intranasal vaccine.
- ★ It has proven to be safe, well-tolerated and immunogenic in subjects in controlled clinical trials phase III.
- ★ BBV154 was developed in partnership with Washington University St Louis, which had designed and developed and evaluated them in preclinical studies for efficacy.
- ★ The vaccine is the first of its kind Covid-19 vaccine to undergo human trials in India.

India Aims to Become Developed Nation

- ★ Addressing the 76th Independence Day on 15 August 2022, PM Narendra Modi announced that India aims to become developed nation in next 25 years.
- ★ The Prime Minister also said that as India celebrates 75 years of Independence, there is a need to now move with a renewed focus and resolve for the next 25 years.
- ★ There is a need to focus on Five Resolves. These are Developed India, removing every ounce of Slave Mentality, Pride for glorious heritage, Unity and Fulfilling Citizen's Duties.

Fifth Elephant Reserve at Agasthiyamalai

- ★ Tamil Nadu Government has notified its 5th Elephant Reserve in the state at Agathiyamalai in Tirunelveli district.
- ★ The Agasthiyamalai Elephant Reserve will be spread across 1,197.48 sq.km of land and will cover Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli areas.
- ★ The Central Government gave its consent for creation of the 5th Elephant Reserve of Tamil Nadu on 13th July 2022.
- ★ As per 2010 Census, a total of 1800 Asian elephants are likely to be located within the Periyar-Agasthiyamalai landscape.
- ★ This reserve will be the 32nd elephant reserve in the country.

World's Highest Railway Bridge Inaugurated

- ★ The golden joint of the world's highest railway bridge over River Chenab was inaugurated.
- ★ For the first time ever since independence, Srinagar will be linked to the rest of India after the overarch deck on the world's highest single-arch railway bridge over River Chenab.
- ★ The bridge will be 35 meters higher than the Eiffel Tower.
- ★ The Chenab is formed by the confluence of two streams, Chandra and Bhaga, in the western (Punjab) Himalayas in India's Himachal Pradesh state.
- ★ The bridge will provide direct connectivity to the Kashmir valley.

Funding for Promotion of Millets in Tribal Areas

- ★ The Odisha Cabinet meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has approved a major proposal for the provision of funds for the “Special Programme for Promotion of Millets in Tribal Areas”.
- ★ The State Cabinet approved an estimated budget of ₹2808.39 crores for six years (2021-22 to 2026-27 financial years).
- ★ Special Programme for Promotion of Millets in Tribal Areas of Odisha (Odisha Millets Mission) was launched by the Government of Odisha in 2017 to revive millets on farms and on plates.
- ★ It emerged from consultation between Government, Academia (NCDS) and Civil Society Organisations (RRA Network, ASHA Network and local NGOs).
- ★ It is the first of its kind of agriculture programme with a priority on increasing consumption in Odisha.

India International Seafood Show

- ★ The 23rd edition of the India International Seafood Show (IISS) will be held in Kolkata from 15 February to 17 February 2023.
- ★ The seafood event will serve as an interactive platform between Indian exporters and overseas importers of India’s marine products.
- ★ It will be organized by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) in association with the Seafood Exporters Association of India (SEAI).
- ★ The objective of the show is to showcase the country’s commitment toward sustainability in the entire value chain of seafood products such as primary production, processing and transportation.
- ★ New techniques in processing and traceability and value addition to products for export will also be discussed.

Indigenous Military Equipment to Army

- ★ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh handed over indigenously-developed equipment and systems to the Indian Army in New Delhi.
- ★ The equipment and systems have been jointly developed by the Indian Army in collaboration with Defence Research and Development Organisation and the Industry, in line with the Prime Minister’s vision to modernise the Armed Forces, under the ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan’.
- ★ The systems will enhance the operational preparedness of the Indian Army and enhance their efficiency.

1,000 Model Anganwadi Centres

- ★ The Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had inaugurated around 1000 model anganwadi centres in the state of Assam and also plans to set up 15000 centres by the year 2026.
- ★ By 2026, he aims to have a total of 15,000 Anganwadis in the state.

- ★ Anganwadis are centres where the physical and mental foundations of a child. It prepares the child for their journey towards the higher education system.
- ★ He also launched the 'Adopt an Anganwadi' portal which is aimed at providing philanthropists, NGOs and citizens concerned with a platform through which they can contribute to the welfare of the society by adopting full or partial expenses of an Anganwadi centre.

Karnataka Government to Provide 2 Percent Reservation

- ★ The Karnataka government issued a final notification on 16 August 2022 to provide a 2 per cent reservation for national and international sportspersons in recruitment to the state police department.
- ★ Karnataka State Reserve Police (KSRP,) Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) and Karnataka State Police Sports Promotion Board President, confirmed that the final notification regarding reservation for sportspersons would be released in another two days.
- ★ Currently, the State provides reservation to sportsperson in the police and forest department on the lines of existing quota.
- ★ Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai also felicitated 75 sports who have been selected under the 'Amrit Kreedha Dattu' scheme.

'Make India No. 1' Mission

- ★ Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on 17 August 2022 launched the national mission to make India No. 1 at Delhi Talkatora Stadium.
- ★ It will focus on health, education, agriculture and employment.
- ★ He also added that opening schools, hospitals, providing employment to youths and equal rights to women needed to make India number one in world.
- ★ He will travel across the country as part of the mission to encourage people to join the initiative and achieve its objectives.

StartUp Loan to TGP Bioplastics

- ★ Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology Dr Jitendra Singh approved StartUp loan of ₹1.15 crores to TGP Bioplastics for commercialising "compostable" plastic and also mitigate the usage of Single Use Plastics (SUP).
- ★ The StartUp has come up with an alternative solution of Single Use Plastic (SUP) with the prototype of a compostable plastic material which breaks down as compost in soil without affecting the environment.
- ★ The MoU was signed between Technology Development Board (TDB), a statutory body under DST and TGP Bioplastics Private Limited for manufacturing and commercialization of compostable plastics.
- ★ The concept of compostable plastic will be scaled up with further government support for driving global action on plastic pollution.

Hyderabad International Airport to Use DigiYatra

- ★ The GMR Hyderabad International Airport (GHIAL) is all set to roll out the Digital processing of passengers as a proof of concept through the DigiYatra platform from 18 August 2022 for three months.
- ★ The Government of India's signature DigiYatra programme will facilitate paperless travel and avoid multiple identity checks at the airport enabling seamless and hassle-free travel.
- ★ This technology will enable passengers paperless travel, and they will be able to use a face scan as a boarding pass.
- ★ For the enrolment, the DigiYatra technical team has developed an exclusive mobile app, which passengers need to download to receive the benefits offered by the DigiYatra programme.
- ★ The app's beta version was launched on 15 August by PM Narendra Modi is presently available at Playstore for Android platform.

National Security Strategies Conference 2022

- ★ Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a two-day National Security Strategies (NSS) Conference 2022 in New Delhi.
- ★ On the first day of the Conference, discussions were held on various aspects of national security, including counter-terrorism, radicalisation, issues pertaining to crypto currencies, counter rogue drone technology and challenges posed by Maoist outfits.
- ★ The Home Minister also inaugurated the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System.
- ★ This system will help in quick and easy disposal of cases with the help of centralized finger print database.

Government to Inaugurate Tech Centre

- ★ With an aim to make tech graduates more employable, Rajasthan government is set to inaugurate the Rajiv Gandhi Centre of Advance Technology or R-CAT.
- ★ It will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on August 20 during a two-day DigiFest-2022.
- ★ R-CAT will be conducting training programs on advanced and emerging information technologies with a duration ranging from one week to six months for professional graduates like BE/BTech, BCA, MCA, MBA and MSc (IT).
- ★ The school will also provide industry standard certificates to all those who will complete the course successfully.
- ★ The event will also see a Startup Expo, which will exhibit products and services by the startups of the state at one common platform.

Ministry of Corporate Affairs has Removed 4.33 Lakh Companies

- ★ Ministry of Corporate Affairs has removed 4.33 lakh companies from the Register of Companies in the last five years.
- ★ 49,921 companies were removed in 2021-22.

- ★ Section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 provides for the removal of the name of the company from the Register of Companies in two conditions.
- ★ If the company is not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and
- ★ If the company has not made any application within the said period for obtaining the status of a Dormant Company under section 455 of the Act.

BRO to Build First Steel Slag Road

- ★ In a first of its kind, the Border Road Organization (BRO) is planning to construct a pilot road stretch on the Arunachal Pradesh border using steel slag.
- ★ It is to “convert waste to wealth” around one lakh tonne of processed steel slag aggregates has been utilized here substituting the natural aggregates.
- ★ The project has been initiated after the success of using 100% steel slag on a port connectivity road in Gujarat, which has a longer life and is built at a low cost.

Paalan 1000 National campaign and Parenting App

- ★ Bharti Pravin Pawar, the Union Minister of State for Health introduced the Parenting App and the Paalan 1000 national campaign in Mumbai.
- ★ The objective is to lower the child mortality rate and provide for infants throughout their first 1000 days after birth, the Paalan 1000 National campaign and Parenting App were launched.
- ★ The program was virtually launched by the Union Minister of State for Health.
- ★ Bharti Pravin Pawar noted that India has made tremendous progress in lowering the child death rate since 2014, when it was 45 per 1000 live births, to 35 per 1000 live births in 2019.

India's 1st Fully 'Functionally Literate' District

- ★ Madhya Pradesh's tribal dominated Mandla region has become the first fully 'functionally literate' district in India.
- ★ The declaration was made by the state minister of food and civil supplies Shri Bisahulal Singh.
- ★ Within two years, the entire district has become functionally literate, claiming that people were able to write their names, count and read.
- ★ The district administration launched a campaign in 2020 to make the residents fully literate.

National Seminar on 'Introspection: Armed Forces Tribunal'

- ★ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will inaugurate a National Seminar on 'Introspection: Armed Forces Tribunal' being organised by the Armed Forces Tribunal (Principal Bench) Bar Association in New Delhi.
- ★ It is being conducted as a part of Raising Day celebrations of the Armed Forces Tribunal.
- ★ The objective of the seminar is to analyse its working, suggest remedies for any shortcomings.

- ★ It also aims at resolving the problems and difficulties faced by the litigants in course of availing speedy justice.
- ★ The seminar is being organized to examine the functioning of the Armed Forces Tribunal, established to ensure the speedy and inexpensive justice to Ex-Servicemen, their families and War-Widows, besides the serving personnel of Armed Forces.

First 'Har Ghar Jal' Certified State and UT

- ★ Goa has become the first 'Har Ghar Jal' certified State and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu the first Union Territory in the country.
- ★ In this State and UT, people from all the villages have declared their village as Har Ghar Jal through a resolution passed by the Gram Sabha.
- ★ All two lakh 63 thousand rural households of Goa and over 85 thousand of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu have access to safe drinking water through tap connection.
- ★ Jal Jeevan Mission is a flagship programme of the Central Government which aims at making provision of potable tap water supply to every rural household of the country by 2024.
- ★ All schools, Anganwadi centres, public institutions including Gram Panchayat buildings, healthcare centres and community centres and other government offices have now access to potable water through tap connection.

First Electric Double-Decker Bus in Mumbai

- ★ Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari launched Ashok Leyland Electric Double Decker Bus named 'Switch EiV 22' in Mumbai.
- ★ As per Ashok Leyland, Switch EiV 22 is India's first and unique electric double-decker air-conditioned bus, which has been designed, developed and manufactured in India.
- ★ The company informs that Switch EiV 22 is equipped with the latest technology, ultra-modern design, highest safety and best-in-class comfort features.
- ★ The Minister also highlighted the need for import-substituting, cost-effective, pollution-free and indigenous products.
- ★ Nitin Gadkari said 35 per cent of the pollution is because of diesel and petrol, and the introduction of these buses will reduce pollution.

17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023

- ★ The 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 will be held at Indore in January 2023.
- ★ Secretary, Consular, Passport and Visa Division, Ausaf Sayeed and Chief Secretary of Madhya Pradesh Iqbal Singh Bains signed a Memorandum of Understanding for hosting the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas.
- ★ On the occasion, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan was also present.
- ★ Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated every year on 09 January to mark the contribution of the overseas Indian community in the development of India.

- ★ It also commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India on 09 January 1915.

The portal NIDAAN

- ★ First-of-its-kind database of arrested narcotics offenders has been made operational for use by various central and state prosecution agencies tasked to enforce anti-drugs laws in the country.
- ★ The portal-NIDAAN or the National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-offenders has been developed by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).
- ★ It is part of the narcotics coordination mechanism (NCORD) portal that was launched by Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah in Chandigarh during the national conference on 'Drug trafficking and national security'.
- ★ The NIDAAN platform sources its data from the ICJS (inter-operable criminal justice system) and the e-Prisons (a cloud-based application) repository and it is planned to integrate it in the future with the crime and criminal tracking network system or CCTNS.

India's First Space Observatory

- ★ India's first observatory to monitor space activity to be launched in Uttarakhand.
- ★ Digantara, a space sector start-up of India, is going to set-up India's first commercial space situational awareness observatory in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand.
- ★ It is to track objects as small as 10 cm in size orbiting the earth.
- ★ The space situational awareness (SSA) observatory will assist in tracking any activity in space including that of space debris and military satellites hovering over the region.
- ★ At present, the United States is a dominant player in monitoring space debris.
- ★ It has observatories in multiple locations with commercial companies providing additional inputs from across the world.

India's First Education Township

- ★ In a first, the Uttar Pradesh government has planned to build an education township in the state.
- ★ The education township will be developed on the idea of 'Single Entry, Multiple Exit'.
- ★ The government announced that the move will provide high-quality education to the youth and equip them with a variety of professional skills in a single place.
- ★ Besides, it will provide accommodation and many other facilities to both students and teachers.
- ★ The idea is to explore ways to make Uttar Pradesh a \$1 trillion economy.
- ★ There will be primary and secondary schools like Atal Residential Schools in the same place.

GI Tag for Mithila Makhana

- ★ Union government has awarded Geographical Indication (GI) tag to Mithila Makhana.
- ★ With this move, growers will get the maximum price for their premium produce.
- ★ Over five lakh farmers of Mithila region of Bihar will be benefitted from this decision.

- ★ Once a product gets this tag, any person or company cannot sell a similar item under that name. This tag is valid for a period of 10 years following which it can be renewed.
- ★ The other benefits of GI registration include legal protection to that item, prevention against unauthorised use by others and promoting exports.

Indigenously Developed Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus Unveiled

- ★ India's 1st Indigenously Developed Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus was unveiled in Pune by MoS Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh.
- ★ The Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus has been developed by KPIT-CSIR in Pune and is being termed the country's first truly indigenously developed Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus.
- ★ The development of the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus comes as part of the country's commitment to the use of clean and green energy for transportation.
- ★ It is to reduce its carbon footprint and positively contribute toward climate change action.
- ★ The Indigenously Developed Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus has been developed as part of PM Modi's visionary National Green Hydrogen Mission and Atmanirbhar Bharat mission.

Godrej Agrovet Signs MoUs with Three States

- ★ Agribusiness company Godrej Agrovet has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Assam, Manipur and Tripura governments for the development and promotion of oil palm cultivation.
- ★ Godrej Agrovet would be allotted land across the three states for the promotion and development of sustainable palm oil plantations in the region under the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) scheme.
- ★ The collaboration will bring new opportunities and growth in building oil palm plantations in these three states and would help provide the required support to the farmers.
- ★ Godrej Agrovet is the largest oil palm processor in India and works directly with farmers for the entire crop cycle.

IREDA Signs MoU with MAHAPREIT

- ★ Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) signed an MoU with Mahatma Phule Renewable Energy and Infrastructure Technology Ltd. (MAHAPREIT), a wholly owned subsidiary of MPBCDC.
- ★ IREDA will offer financing facilities to MAHAPREIT for the Renewable Energy projects to be implemented for state utilities, local bodies and the infrastructure of Renewable Energy Parks.
- ★ This is the ninth MoU inked by IREDA in the last two years to provide consultation services for the sustainable development of the country.
- ★ This MoU will be able to support Government of India achieve its targets of 50% share of energy from non-fossil fuels by 2030.

Naval Shooting Range

- ★ A first of its kind, Composite Indoor Shooting Range CISR was inaugurated by Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta at INS Karna Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (AP).
- ★ INS Karna is the first in the Navy and perhaps the only military unit in the country to set up and use CISR.
- ★ The CISR is a state of the art, self-contained, 25 m, six lane, live firing range for all primary and secondary weapons in the Navy.
- ★ With an advanced target system, associated control software, this range would enable personnel to enhance their firing skills, enabling them to challenge and take on adversaries in demanding scenarios.
- ★ The range has been setup to contemporary international standards by an Indian firm and is a shining example of Atma Nirbhar Bharta.
- ★ The entire facility was setup in record time of 120 days.

Silk Mark Expo in New Delhi

- ★ Union Minister of State for Textiles Darshana Jardosh inaugurated the Silk Mark Expo in New Delhi.
- ★ The expo is being organised by the Silk Mark Organisation of India under Central Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles.
- ★ Silk Mark is a quality assurance label launched by government to determine that the product is made up of pure natural silk.
- ★ This mark will highlight qualifying standards, which will eventually build consumer confidence in both domestic and export markets.
- ★ The Silk Mark Expo which will run till 28 August, is aimed at protecting the interests of not only the silk consumers, but all the stakeholders of silk value chain.

NHA and Department of Social Justice and Empowerment

- ★ Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Health Authority (NHA) at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.
- ★ The main objective is for providing a Comprehensive Medical Package to Transgender Persons under Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY.
- ★ This joint initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Social Welfare and Empowerment is first of its kind in the Country to give a new direction to our society and respectable place in the society for Transgender persons.
- ★ A special “Ayushman Bharat TG Plus” card is being provided for the transgender society by linking the SMILE scheme with the “Ayushman Bharat Scheme” of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ★ The ministry will fund ₹5 lakh insurance cover per transgender beneficiary per annum.

First Cow Dung to Compressed Biogas Project

- ★ Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) commenced its Cowdung to Compressed Biogas Project at Sanchore, Rajasthan.
- ★ This will be HPCL's first project under Waste to Energy portfolio.
- ★ The plant is proposed to utilize 100 Tons per day of dung to produce biogas, which can be utilized as automotive fuel.
- ★ The project is being developed under GOBAR-Dhan scheme launched by Government of India as a part of the Biodegradable Waste Management component under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) to positively impact cleanliness and generate wealth and energy from cattle and organic waste.

National Labour Conference

- ★ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the National Conference of Labour Ministers of all States and Union Territories on 25 August 2022 virtually.
- ★ The two-day Conference is being organised by the Union Ministry of Labour and Employment at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.
- ★ It is to discuss various significant labour-related issues. It will help create further synergy amongst the Centre and State Governments in formulating better policies and ensuring effective implementation of schemes for the welfare of workers.
- ★ The Conference will have four thematic sessions on integrating the e-Shram portal for onboarding social security schemes to universalize social protection.

Tamil Nadu Footwear and Leather Products Policy 2022

- ★ Tamil Nadu, has announced an investment of ₹2,250 crore in the footwear and leather sector and launched an annual policy for the industry in Tamil Nadu Footwear and Leather Sector Conclave 2022.
- ★ The state government signed five memoranda of understanding (MoUs) for the investments in the presence of CM MK Stalin who launched the 'Tamil Nadu Footwear and Leather Products Policy 2022'.
- ★ The government has signed MoUs with five firms that include KICL SEMS, Wagon International, KICL, Walkaroo, and KICL (footwear cluster).
- ★ The step will help the sector in attracting ₹20,000 crore investment by 2025 and generate employment for 2 lakh people.

CDRI Signs with Government of India

- ★ The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and the Government of India (GoI) signed a headquarters agreement in New Delhi.
- ★ The agreement will enable the status of an 'Independent and International Legal Entity' for CDRI.
- ★ It will enable the institution to pursue functions internationally with all rights, immunities, and privileges, as per the United Nations (Privileges & Immunities) Act, 1947.

- ★ This will further enable the organization to fulfill its commitments and engagements on the resilience of infrastructure.

Cyber Security Upskilling Programme

- ★ Search and internet major, Google has announced a campaign to upskill cyber security researchers and developers in India.
- ★ The campaign will be part of the company's Cyber Security Roadshow, which will cover multiple cities across India and offer tools, tutorials and mentorship on security practices for building consumer apps as well as enterprise programmes.
- ★ The upskilling programme will target 1 lakh developers in India and will cover two broad divisions within the programme - Android and Google Cloud.
- ★ The programme will support developers building apps for consumers, the Google Cloud upskilling programme will target enterprise developers and security administrators.

Tripartite MoU Signed for Swift Development

- ★ The tripartite agreement was signed by National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML), Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL).
- ★ It has been signed for swift development of modern Multi Modal Logistics Parks (MMLP) under Bharatmala Pariyojna across the country.
- ★ The objective is to centralize freight consolidation and reduce logistics cost from 14% to less than 10% of GDP at par with International Standards.
- ★ The MMLPs will focus on a technology driven implementation for a state-of-the-art freight management system.

Azadi Quest App

- ★ Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur launched the Azadi Quest, a series of online mobile games on the heroes and milestones of Indian freedom in New Delhi.
- ★ Azadi Quest is a set of online games designed for players of all ages for interactive learning with fun gameplay.
- ★ The Initiative is inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call to 'Engage, Entertain and Educate' the people through toys and games.
- ★ It will prove to be a very effective tool in spreading awareness on India's freedom fighters.
- ★ The Azadi Quest games are available for Android and iOS devices in English and Hindi for the people of India.

'Smriti Van' Memorial

- ★ India's first earthquake memorial, named Smruti Van was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Bhuj in Gujarat.
- ★ Smruti Van is a unique memorial carrying the names of more than 12 thousand people who lost their lives in the devastating earthquake that struck here in January 2001.

- ★ This novel memorial is spread across 470 acres of land and is built atop Bhujiyo hill.
- ★ The earthquake simulator will provide real like experience of earthquake tremors to visitors.

Nagaland Gets Its Second Railway Station

- ★ Nagaland got its second Railway station on Dhansari-Shokhuvi railway line after a gap of more than 100 years.
- ★ Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio officially flagged off the first passenger train service- the Donyi Polo Express from Shokhuvi Railway station in Choumukedima District.
- ★ This service will immensely benefit the people of Nagaland and other neighboring states.
- ★ Shokhuvi Railway station is part of the Dimapur-Zubza Railway project. This railway station is an alternative train route for Nagaland and Manipur passengers to Guwahati.
- ★ Dimapur station was opened in 1903.

20th Edition of BioAsia 2023

- ★ The Government of Telangana will host the 20th edition of BioAsia 2023, the major event of BioAsia 2023 for life sciences and health tech on 24 February- 26 February, 2023.
- ★ Minister for Industries and Commerce KT Rama Rao launched the BioAsia 2023 logo and theme 'Advancing for ONE: Shaping the Next Generation of Humanised Healthcare'.
- ★ It will debate the multidisciplinary subjects of One Health, disruptive medical technology and universal healthcare accessibility and affordability.
- ★ Bio Asia 2023 will bring together professionals in the life sciences and healthcare, academics, start-ups, regulators and investors on one stage.
- ★ More than 100 carefully selected health-tech entrepreneurs from across the world will be able to demonstrate their ground-breaking solutions to pressing medical problems at the BioAsia 2023 event's start-up showcase.

Net-Zero Goal By 2046

- ★ Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) plans to invest over ₹2 trillion to reach the net-zero carbon emission target by 2046.
- ★ IOC plans to achieve two-thirds of emission reduction through energy efficiency, electrification and fuel replacement efforts, while about a third of the total emission would be mitigated through options such as carbon capture utilisation and storage (CCUS) route, nature-based solutions and purchase of carbon credits.
- ★ The target set is in line with India's aim to reach net-zero emissions by 2070.

India@100 Roadmap

- ★ The Competitiveness Roadmap for India@100 will be unveiled in New Delhi by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM).
- ★ The EAC-India@100 PM's report acts as a road map for India's progress toward its centennial year and will guide and inform the nation's route to a better income status by 2047.

- ★ The EAC-PM suggests policy goals, concepts and approaches in India@100 to advance India's economy toward sustainability and resilience founded on social development and shared prosperity.

Meet the Champion' Initiative

- ★ Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry organised- 'Meet the Champion' initiative in 26 schools across the country on the occasion of National Sports Day which was celebrated on 29 August 2022.
- ★ The prominent athletes who will be the part of this initiative are Commonwealth Games and World Championships Gold Medalist Nikhat Zareen, Paralympics and CWG medalist Bhavina Patel, Tokyo Olympics and CWG medalist Manpreet Singh among others.
- ★ Sports Authority of India will also be celebrating this year's National Sports Day, as part of the FIT INDIA campaign, with the theme of 'Sports as an enabler for an inclusive and fit society'.
- ★ During the school visit, the champion athlete shares their experiences, life lessons and tips on how to eat right and also give an overall inspirational boost to school children.

Atal Tinkering Labs in Jammu and Kashmir

- ★ Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and NITI Aayog will establish more than 500 Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) in Jammu and Kashmir to nurture an innovative mind-set among high school students.
- ★ The objectives of the AIM are to create and promote an ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship across the country through interventions at school, university, research institutions, MSME and industry levels.
- ★ The programmes of AIM cover 34 states and Union Territories with the goal of leveraging India's demographic dividend by inspiring greater participation in the innovation ecosystem.
- ★ NITI Aayog will replicate the J&K model of Atal Tinkering Lab to the rest of India on a 50:50 cost-sharing basis.
- ★ An MoU signed between AIM and J&K UT will provide rupees 10 lakh each to establish ATLs in UT.

PMJDY to Complete Eight Years

- ★ Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana has completed 8 years and has achieved its major goals during this period.
- ★ PM Jan Dhan Yojana is a flagship financial inclusion program that was started by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and was launched on 28th August 2014.
- ★ In eight years, PM Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) has touched the mark of 462.5 million, as of 10th August 2022, the deposits in these accounts are to be approximately 1.73 trillion.
- ★ PM Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is a National Mission financial inclusion program that aims to bring comprehensive financial inclusion to all households in India.
- ★ The PMJDY aims to provide universal access to banking facilities which includes at least one basic banking account for every household, financial literacy, access to credit, insurance and Pension facility.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Indian and Malaysian Bodies to Sign Agreement

- ★ The Indian Vegetable Oil Producers' Association (IVPA) and the Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to further cooperation between the two organizations to promote the usage of palm oil.
- ★ It is to help educate Indian consumers on the nutritional and health benefits of palm oil and improve overall understanding of palm oil and its applications, while elucidating its strengths and benefits.
- ★ The MoU is expected to expand cooperation in areas of mutual interest, to promote the development and use of Malaysian palm oil and MSPO-certified palm oil.
- ★ The MoU will encourage the exchange of data on palm and edible oils and fats-related business, besides technical, policy and administrative information.

Indian And French Navies Exercise in the Atlantic

- ★ INS Tarkash conducted a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with French Naval Ships in the North Atlantic Ocean.
- ★ Restoration at sea was exercised between Tarkash and the French Fleet Tanker FNS Somme.
- ★ This was followed by joint air operations with the maritime surveillance aircraft Falcon 50 participating in multiple simulated missile engagements and air defence drills.

4th India-Oman Joint Military Exercise

- ★ The 4th Edition of India-Oman Joint Military Exercise 'AL NAJAH-IV' begins at the Foreign Training Node of Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan.
- ★ The Indian Army will be represented by troops from the 18 Mechanised Infantry Battalion at the AL NAJAH-IV.
- ★ The Royal Army of Oman contingent will be represented by the Sultan of Oman Parachute Regiment.
- ★ The objective of this joint military exercise is to enhance the level of defence cooperation between the Armies of India and Oman as well as the bilateral relations between the two nations.
- ★ The exercise would focus on Counter Terrorism Operations, Regional Security Operations and Peace Keeping Operations under the United Nations charter, joint physical training schedules, tactical drills, techniques and procedures.

UNGA Declares Access to a Clean and Healthy Environment

- ★ The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a historic resolution declaring access to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, a universal human right.
- ★ The resolution is based on the Human Rights Council, calls upon States, international organizations and business enterprises to scale up efforts to ensure a healthy environment for all.

- ★ It will help reduce environmental injustices, close protection gaps and empower people, especially those that are in vulnerable situations including environmental human rights defenders, children, youth, women, and indigenous peoples.

India-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting

- ★ External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar reached Cambodia for the India-ASEAN Ministerial meeting.
- ★ He visited Siem Reap where Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) experts are doing conservation work.
- ★ The year 2022 is being celebrated as the ASEAN-India Friendship Year as announced by ASEAN and Indian leaders at the 18th ASEAN-India Summit in October 2021.

India to Participate in 17-Nation 'Pitch Black' Exercise

- ★ India will be one of 17 nations that are going to participate in the 'Pitch Black' air combat exercises organised by Australia.
- ★ The exercise is scheduled to take place from 19 August to 06 September, 2022.
- ★ The air combat exercises are conducted by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and will see 2,500 personnel from 17 countries that will be engaging in Offensive Counter Air (OCA) and Defensive Counter Air (DCA) combat exercises.
- ★ Exercise Pitch Black 2022 is a war game or warfare exercise that first started in Australia's Northern Territories in the 1980s between different RAAF units.

Mega Military Exercise in Uttarakhand

- ★ India and the US will conduct a fortnight-long mega military exercise in Uttarakhand's Auli in October 2022.
- ★ The 18th edition of exercise "Yudh Abhyas" is scheduled to take place from 14 October to 31 October.
- ★ A number of complex drills are being planned for the mega exercise.
- ★ The exercise is aimed at enhancing understanding, cooperation and interoperability between the two armies.
- ★ The last edition of the exercise took place in October last year in Alaska in the US.
- ★ The two countries have also inked key defence and security pacts over the past few years, including the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA).
- ★ The agreement that allows militaries of two countries to use each other's bases for repair and replenishment of supplies as well as provides for deeper cooperation.

IOCL Signs MoU with Bangladesh

- ★ The Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) signed an MoU with the Bangladesh Roads and Highways department in Dhaka.

- ★ It has been signed for the emergency supply of petroleum goods through Bangladesh territory to India.
- ★ This is an interim set up to facilitate urgent supply of petroleum products due to damage caused by the flood in Assam.
- ★ The IOCL will bear all the administrative fees, charges and local taxes including road usage fee for use of the Bangladeshi territory.

India-Mauritius Joint Trade Committee

- ★ India and Mauritius held the 1st session of India-Mauritius High-Powered Joint Trade Committee on 01 August-03 August 2022, in New Delhi.
- ★ It had been constituted as per the mandate of the India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership agreement (CECPA).
- ★ It is to review the general functioning and implementation of the India-Mauritius CECPA which entered into force on 01 April 2021.
- ★ CECPA is the first trade Agreement signed by India with a country in Africa.

Adani Enterprises Partners with Israel Innovation Authority

- ★ Adani Enterprises Ltd (AEL), the business incubation arm of the Adani Group, has signed an MoU with the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA), the public-funded agency of Israel's innovation policy for cooperation in technological innovations.
- ★ The MoU will lead to the creation of a 'cutting-edge innovation platform'.
- ★ It will allow Adani businesses to access tech solutions provided by Israel.

UNSC Meeting on Counterterrorism

- ★ India will chair the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee for 2022.
- ★ The meeting will be focussed particularly on challenges such as terrorism financing, cyberthreats and the use of drones.
- ★ India will welcome diplomats from the 15-nation Security Council, including the US, China, and Russia, for the special meeting of the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee in October.
- ★ India will serve as the committee's chair until 2022.
- ★ According to information on the Committee's website, the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) has decided to hold a special meeting on this topic in India on October 29, 2022, with the assistance of its Executive Directorate.

UNESCO Heritage List

- ★ The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has added a 106-year-old astronomical observatory at Langat Singh College in Bihar's Muzaffarpur to its list of important endangered heritage observatories of the world.
- ★ The observatory was built in 1916 in the 123-year-old college, now affiliated with Bhim Rao Ambedkar Bihar University.

- ★ In 1946, the college also installed a planetarium, the first in India.
- ★ The observatory and planetarium functioned satisfactorily up to 1970 but started declining gradually with time.

Exercise Vajra Prahar 2022

- ★ The 13th Edition of the Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise “Ex Vajra Prahar 2022” commenced at the Special Forces Training School (SFTS) in Himchal Pradesh’s Bakloh.
- ★ The exercise aims to share best practices and experiences in areas such as joint mission planning and operational tactics and also to improve inter-operability between the special forces of both nations.
- ★ This annual exercise is hosted alternatively between India and the United States.
- ★ The 12th edition was conducted at Joint Base Lewis Mcchord, Washington (USA) in October 2021.
- ★ The US contingent is represented by personnel from the 1st Special Forces Group (SFG) and Special Tactics Squadron (STS) of US Special Forces and the Indian Army contingent is formed by drawing Special Forces personnel.

Russia Signs Contract to Supply Radio Equipments

- ★ The Russian enterprise Scientific and Production Corporation “Radio technical Systems” (RTS) of Russia has signed a large-scale contract with the Airports Authority of India (AAI) for the supply of radio equipment.
- ★ The Russian company will manufacture 34 sets of instrument landing systems (ILS)-734 for the modernization of 24 airports in India.
- ★ According to the contract, the first part of landing systems ILS-734 must be shipped before November 2022 and the payments within the transaction will be carried out in national currencies.
- ★ The ILS- 734 system allows for the landing of equipped aircraft with a runway visual range of a minimum of 50 meters and a decision height of a minimum of 15 meters.
- ★ The landing system is subject to increased requirements for the reliability and stability of the output parameters of the equipment.

EC to host virtual Meet of Asian Regional Forum

- ★ The Election Commission will host a virtual meet of the Asian Regional Forum in New Delhi.
- ★ This Regional Forum meets on the theme of ‘Making our Elections Inclusive, Accessible and Participative’.
- ★ It is a precursor to the Global Summit for Democracy to be hosted by the National Electoral Institute of Mexico in 2022.
- ★ The Global Summit and the Regional Forum meet aim at generating synergy amongst international organizations and electoral bodies from the world and promote intellectual and institutional mobilization to strengthen electoral democracy in the world.

- ★ Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey will head over the Asian Regional Forum meet.
- ★ It will have participation from Election Management Bodies of Mexico, Mauritius, Philippines, Nepal, Uzbekistan, Maldives and Representatives from Association of World Election Bodies and International Foundation for Electoral Systems.
- ★ The first session is on Inclusive Elections: Enhancing Participation of Youth, Gender and Citizens in Remote Areas which will be co-chaired by the Chief Election Commissioner from Mauritius and Nepal.

3 Men Commission for World Peace

- ★ Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador has proposed a 3-men commission comprising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and Pope Francis for global peace.
- ★ The Mexican President is planning to submit a written proposal to the UN to create the commission made up of three world leaders to promote a world truce for a period of five years.
- ★ The aim of the commission is to present a proposal to stop the wars around the world and reach an agreement to seek a treaty for at least five years.

U.S. Bill on Climate Action

- ★ The United States Senate passed a bill called 'The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) 2022'.
- ★ This bill has a special focus on healthcare, climate and tax provisions to address inflation.
- ★ This bill contains packages worth \$369 billion for clean energy transition which makes this the largest American investment towards clean energy.
- ★ The Bill provides several tax deductions to low and middle-income households to promote electric energy and reduce electricity bills.
- ★ It also aims to encourage the domestic production of heat pumps and critical minerals.
- ★ The Bill funds various zero-emission technologies to increase the climate resilience of disadvantaged poor and tribal communities.

ISA Floats Tender for Solar Project in Cuba

- ★ The International Solar Alliance (ISA) in partnership with the Cuban government has floated a tender for setting up a 1150 MW solar project in Cuba.
- ★ State-owned NTPC is the project management consultant for ISA for setting up the project.
- ★ The project is part of Cuba's plan to implement 2100 MW of solar projects, reducing the reliance on expensive and polluting diesel generators and increasing its green energy portfolio.
- ★ It also includes building of 150 MW of storage to support grid reliability.

Treaty Between India and Australia

- ★ The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the signing of an audio-visual co-production treaty between India and Australia with the view to promoting the co-production of films.
- ★ Audio-visual co-production treaties are enabling documents that facilitate the co-production of films between two countries.
- ★ India has so far, signed one audio-visual co-production treaty with foreign countries.
- ★ Australia has emerged as a preferred destination for the shooting of Indian films.
- ★ India is fast emerging as a major content hub for filmmakers looking for new projects.

Sri Lankan Navy to Receive First-Ever Dornier Surveillance

- ★ India handed over a Dornier maritime surveillance aircraft to the Sri Lankan navy on 15 August 2022 in a ceremony attended by Sri Lankan president Ranil Wickremesinghe.
- ★ It is the first Dornier aircraft to be inducted into the Sri Lankan fleet after the Sri Lankan government requested India's assistance in obtaining two Dornier aircrafts during Defence Dialogue held in 2018.
- ★ Dornier 228 Maritime Patrol Aircraft is a Short Take-off and Landing (STOL), multirole light transport aircraft used by the Indian Navy for electronic warfare missions and has been in production since 1981.
- ★ Indian High Commissioner Gopal Baglay and Naval Vice Admiral Ghormade will hand over the Dornier maritime surveillance aircraft to Sri Lankan Navy.

India-Thailand Joint Commission Meeting

- ★ The 9th India-Thailand Joint Commission Meeting will be held in Bangkok.
- ★ Both the countries are celebrating 75 years of establishment of diplomatic relations.
- ★ External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar arrived in Thailand to attend the meeting.
- ★ The event was organized by India-Thai Chamber of Commerce.

Japan-IMD Partnership

- ★ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has partnered with Government of Japan and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on Climate Change.
- ★ They have launched an initiative to enhance climate action across 10 states and Union Territories in India.
- ★ It will also ensure climate-resilient development.
- ★ Initiative will be launched in association with IMD at the Ministry of Earth Sciences and Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- ★ They will promote climate mitigation by placing clean energy infrastructure and low-emission technologies in important sectors like Health, Transport, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Agriculture.

Thai PBS Signs MoU with Prasar Bharati

- ★ External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar visited Thailand to co-chair the 9th Meeting of India-Thailand Joint Commission with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand Don Pramudwinai.
- ★ During the meeting, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Cooperation and Collaboration on Broadcasting between Prasar Bharti and Thai Public Broadcasting Service was signed.
- ★ Also, MoU on Health and Medical Research Cooperation between Indian Council of Medical Research and Department of Medical Sciences, Thailand.

India-France Transport Sector Pact

- ★ The Union Cabinet approved signing of a contract between India and France to support the International Transport Forum (ITF) activities on the Indian transport sector.
- ★ The activities to be carried out under this contract will lead to new scientific results and identification of technology options for decarbonisation of transport sector in India.
- ★ The contract was signed on 06 July 2022.

HAL to Open Office in Malaysia

- ★ Hindustan Aeronautics Limited has signed an MoU for establishing an office in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- ★ The office in Malaysia will help HAL in tapping the new business opportunities for Fighter Lead-in Trainer (FLIT) LCA and other requirements of Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) like Su-30 MKM and Hawk upgrades.
- ★ It will reinforce commitment of India in supporting the Malaysian Defence Forces and industry for sustainable aerospace and defence landscape in Malaysia.
- ★ It will also help HAL expand its services in South East Asia.

4th India-Philippines Strategic Dialogue

- ★ The 4th India-Philippines Strategic Dialogue was held in Manila, Philippines in which the two sides discussed Defence and Security Cooperation.
- ★ They reviewed the multi-faceted relations between India and Philippines.
- ★ The two sides also expressed their desire to advance bilateral relations and expand engagement in areas including agriculture, trade, pharmaceuticals, fintech, education, defence and security and people to people ties.
- ★ They also exchanged views on regional and global issues of mutual interest as well as ASEAN-related matters.

65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference

- ★ An Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will attend the 65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPA) at Halifax in Canada.

- ★ This conference is scheduled to be held from 20 August to 26 August 2022.
- ★ The Conference will also be attended by 23 Presiding Officers and 16 Secretaries from State Legislatures from India who are also members of CPA.
- ★ During the Conference, eight workshops will be held on various subjects.
- ★ Speaker Om Birla will participate as a panelist in workshop on 'People's Parliament: Accessibility through Innovation'.

'Pitch Black' Exercise

- ★ The Indian Air Force joined Pitch Black 2022, a joint military exercise in Australia.
- ★ India's contingent was led by Group Captain YPS Negi, which comprised more than 100 air warriors deployed with four Sukhoi-30MKI fighters and two C-17 heavy lift aircraft.
- ★ The three-week 'Pitch Black' exercise will have participants from Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Indonesia, India, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, the UAE, Singapore, Thailand, the US and the UK in Australia's Northern Territory.
- ★ The Exercise is scheduled to be held from 19 August to 08 September 2022.
- ★ It is a biennial, multi-national exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force.

First Country to Make Period Products Free

- ★ Scotland has become the first in the world to legally protect the right to access free period products with a new law, the Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Act in November 2020.
- ★ The Scottish government already invested millions of pounds since 2017 to fund free period products in educational institutions.
- ★ The bill, which was passed unanimously in 2020 was introduced by Scottish Parliament lawmaker Monica Lennon who had campaigned against 'period poverty'.
- ★ Under the new law, schools, colleges and universities as well as local government bodies must make a range of period products such as tampons and sanitary pads available for free in their bathrooms.

Bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Asuncion, Paraguay

- ★ External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar has unveiled a bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Asuncion, Paraguay.
- ★ He is on his first ever official visit to South America and would also be visiting Argentina.
- ★ The Minister also visited the historic Casa de la Independencia, from where Paraguay's Independence movement started more than two centuries ago.

UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage List

- ★ India has nominated the dance form Garba to be inscribed on UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list.

- ★ In 2021, 'Durga Puja' was included on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) intangible cultural heritage.
- ★ India has now nominated 'Garba' for 2022.
- ★ India was elected by UNESCO to serve on the distinguished Intergovernmental Committee of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in July.

Meeting on Counter-Terrorism

- ★ India to host UN Security Council members for special meeting on counter-terrorism in October.
- ★ India chairs the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee for 2022.
- ★ The special meeting will specifically focus on three significant areas where emerging technologies are experiencing rapid development, growing use by member states (including for security and counter-terrorism purposes) and the increasing threat of abuse for terrorism purposes, namely Internet and social media, terrorism financing and unmanned aerial systems (UAS).
- ★ The theme for the meeting is "Mindful of the increasing threat posed by the misuse of new and emerging technologies".

8th India-Brazil Joint Commission Meeting

- ★ External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar co-chaired the 8th India-Brazil Joint Commission Meeting with his Brazilian counterpart Carlos França in Brasília.
- ★ The comprehensive discussions covered trade and investments, petroleum, biofuels, edible oils and minerals, health, pharma, traditional medicine, Science and Technology, agriculture and livestock, space, defense and counter-terrorism.
- ★ During the meeting, agreements were signed in the fields of broadcasting and taxation.

BANKING, FINANCE & ECONOMICS

International Bullion Exchange IIBX in GIFT-City

- ★ The "India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX)" has been established by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- ★ India's first global bullion exchange is called IIBX.
- ★ The exchange will sell actual gold and silver as was stated in Budget 2020.
- ★ Jewelers having a net worth of at least ₹25 crore would be eligible to participate in the exchange.
- ★ The International Financial Services Centers Authority's headquarters building in GIFT-City also received its foundation stone from the PM.
- ★ Through this platform, customers, investors and trading members of SGX who previously traded Indian stocks listed on the NSE through SGX will now do so through the NSE IFSC.

Bandhan Bank Opens First Currency Chest

- ★ Bandhan Bank has opened its first currency chest in Deedargunj in Patna, Bihar.
- ★ This will help the private lender manage cash management for the branches and ATMs in Bihar.
- ★ The currency chest will help its customers, micro, small, medium enterprises, and small traders with the supply of currency notes to the bank branches and the ATMs as and when required.
- ★ The bank plans to open more than 530 new bank branches across the country in this financial year.

BOB Financial Solutions Launches Mobile App 'Bob Card'

- ★ BOB Financial Solutions Limited has launched its credit card servicing mobile application 'bob card'.
- ★ The main objective of the card is to help customers with a one-stop solution to manage their Bank of Baroda credit card services.
- ★ It is a smart digital platform that offers a battery-saver dark-themed interface along with secured access with face ID, fingerprint lock and PIN and a smart eye feature to ensure that card details of the customers remain private.
- ★ The app has been designed in collaboration with IBM.
- ★ It will help customers manage their card usage limit, redeem reward points instantly, convert high-value transactions into smart EMIs and pay credit card bills on time.

SIDBI Partners with SVC Bank

- ★ SVC Co-operative Bank Ltd. (SVC Bank), one of India's leading co-operative bank and Small Industries Development Bank in India (SIDBI), financial institution for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) partnered through an Agreement.
- ★ SVC Bank becomes the first Urban Co-operative Bank to initiate a unique refinancing partnership with SIDBI
- ★ The MoU signed will enable SVC Bank to extend SIDBI's Refinance facility to facilitate credit flow to MSMEs.
- ★ SVC Bank has been supporting the MSMEs as a trusted partner for more than 115 years.
- ★ SIDBI is the Principal Financial Institution for Promotion, Financing and Development of the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector, has recently decided to extend refinance assistance to eligible scheduled Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).

Monetary Policy Committee Meeting

- ★ The three-day Monetary Policy Committee Meeting began today in Mumbai in the presence of RBI Governor Shaktikant Das and other MPC members.
- ★ The MPC will announce its bi-monthly monetary policy on 05 July 2022.
- ★ The MPC will discuss the policy for financial year 2022-23.

- ★ After keeping the policy rates unchanged for almost two years the apex bank has continued the rate hike cycle this year.
- ★ Experts are expecting a rate hike of 25 to 50 basis points from the apex bank in this upcoming policy.

SEBI Postpones Implementation of MF Holder Nomination Rules

- ★ Capital market regulator Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has postponed the implementation of new rules on the nomination for mutual fund investors till 01 October 2022.
- ★ The new rules of providing an option for mutual fund investors to submit details of nomination were to come into force on 01 August 2022.
- ★ It has been decided that investors subscribing to mutual fund units after 01 October 2022, will have a choice to submit the nomination form or the declaration form for opting out of the nomination physical or online as per the choice of the unitholders.
- ★ In the case of the physical option, the forms will carry the wet signature of all the unitholders.
- ★ In the case of the online option, instead of wet signatures of all the unitholders AMCs shall validate the forms using the e-Sign facility or through two-factor authentication.

SEBI Lays Rules for Automated Deactivation of Trading and Demat Accounts

- ★ Capital markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) released a framework for automated deactivation of trading and demat accounts of investors in case of inadequate Know Your Client (KYC) details.
- ★ The framework will come into effect on 31 August 2022.
- ★ The objective is to ensure that the client furnishes accurate or updated details of address and ensure that KYC details are correct.
- ★ Under the rules, market infrastructure institutions (MIIs) stock exchanges, except commodity derivatives exchanges and depositories will have to physically serve Show Cause Notice (SCN) or order issued by the regulator to the concerned entity.
- ★ The MIIs will have to forward the signed acknowledgment of its receipt by the concerned addressee or its authorized representative to the regulator within 30 days from the date of receipt of such instructions from the SEBI.

Union Bank of India Launched EmpowerHim

- ★ Union Bank of India launched an Industry-first, dedicated, men-focused Committee 'EmpowerHim' as part of its flagship HR initiative 'Prerna'.
- ★ It was launched by A Manimekhalai, MD and CEO of Union Bank of India.
- ★ The main objective is to promote the employees career trajectory and improve diversity in the Bank by picking out and resolving individual as well as common existing challenges.
- ★ It is also to understand local problems, highlight the importance of gender equity and focus on sensitization at work.

SEBI Constitutes 15-Member Committee

- ★ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted an expert group of Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) to boost overseas flows into the country.
- ★ The FPI Advisory Committee (FAC) will be chaired by former Chief Economic Adviser KV Subramanian.
- ★ It consists of 14 other members representing foreign banks, stock exchanges depositories and RBI.
- ★ The FAC has been tasked with advising on issues related to investments and operations of FPIs in the financial markets, including measures to facilitate ease of doing business by FPIs in India.
- ★ The committee will review investment avenues available for FPIs and to advise on the feasibility of new investment avenues.
- ★ It will also suggest measures required to encourage FPI participation in the bond market.

1st to List Payment Gateway on New Tax Platform

- ★ Kerala based, Federal Bank is the first bank to get listed its Payment Gateway platform on “TIN 2.0 platform” of the Income Tax Department.
- ★ TIN 2.0 platform was started on 01 July 2022.
- ★ With this platform, taxpayers can make their payments with ease, through this platform.
- ★ They can use modes like Credit or Debit Card, NEFT or RTGS, UPI and Internet Banking to make payments.
- ★ TIN is an initiative of Income Tax Department of India (ITD).
- ★ It was started to modernize the current system to collect, process, monitor and take account of the direct taxes through information technology.
- ★ It is a repository of nationwide Tax related information. TIN was set up by Protean eGov Technologies Limited.

American Express Launches Global Pay

- ★ American Express has launched a cross-border payments platform for small to medium-sized businesses called Global Pay.
- ★ Through this new digital solution, business customers can send payments funded from their business bank account to their suppliers in more than 40 countries, across a range of currencies using a simple and mobile-friendly platform.
- ★ Eligible customers will also be able to earn rewards on foreign exchange payments.
- ★ The new platform will offer same-day payments, an “integrated user experience” and “world-class rewards”.
- ★ It will act as a digital solution that will let US business make secure domestic and international B2B (Business to Business) payments.

HDFC Raises \$1.1 billion Social Loan

- ★ Mortgage lender HDFC Ltd has raised USD 1.1 billion (₹8,700 crore) from a clutch of investors under the 'Syndicated Social Loan Facility' at about a 3.3 percent rate for financing housing projects in India.
- ★ The loan has been priced 90 basis points over the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR).
- ★ This is the largest social loan globally, the first external commercial borrowing (ECB) loan out of India and the largest ECB loan deal from a housing finance company or private NBFC in India.
- ★ MUFG Bank Ltd is the Lead Social Loan Coordinator for this transaction along with being one of the Mandated Lead Arrangers and Borrowers (MLAB).

Smart Secure Easy Solution

- ★ Max Life Insurance Company Ltd. has launched Max Life Smart Secure Easy Solution, a comprehensive three-in-one protection solution offering benefits of life, critical illness and disability and accidental cover.
- ★ It is to provide financial protection in case of any uncertainties in life with an accidental cover option and Max Life Critical Illness and Disability Health Rider, which offers an added layer of financial protection in case of critical illnesses, total and permanent disability and provides extra coverage against death due to accident.
- ★ The solution is a combination of Max Life's Smart Secure Plus Plan.

HDFC Receives In-Principle Approval from SEBI

- ★ Capital markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has granted in-principle approval for a change in control of HDFC Asset Management Company (AMC), a subsidiary of HDFC and the asset management company of HDFC Mutual Fund due to a change in co-sponsor of HDFC Mutual Fund on account of proposed amalgamation of HDFC with and into HDFC Bank.
- ★ It has already received no-objection or approval from stock exchanges and RBI.
- ★ The change in control of the asset management company is part of HDFC's merger deal with HDFC Bank.
- ★ This is subject to the approval of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) under Sections 230-232 of the Companies Act.
- ★ HDFC AMC is the investment manager of the schemes of HDFC Mutual Fund.

Indian Visa Centres in Bangladesh

- ★ The State Bank of India (SBI) will run the Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC) in Bangladesh for two more years.
- ★ The agreement to extend the operations for two more years was signed between the officials of the SBI and the High Commission of India in Dhaka.
- ★ The IVAC will also be starting a few additional services soon which include facilitation for online form filling and submission of forms, slot booking and launching of a mobile app.

- ★ SBI runs a total of 15 IVACs across Bangladesh. The first IVAC was started by SBI in 2005 in Dhaka.
- ★ The IVAC centre at the Jamuna Future Park in Dhaka was opened in 2018. It is the largest Indian visa application centre.
- ★ On average, the IVAC manages more than 5.5 thousand visa applications on a daily basis.

One-stop Cash Management Proposition

- ★ Axis Bank becomes the first Indian bank to launch Axis Receivables Suite (ARS)-an innovative Cash Management proposition.
- ★ It simplifies Receivables reconciliation, accelerates cash flow, enhances the client experience and reduces the cost of doing business.
- ★ Using ARS, Axis Bank clients can customize and automate fully what has traditionally been a very time-consuming, costly, manual and error-prone activity.
- ★ Clients also benefit from knowing their upcoming and pending payments which give them real-time control over all their receivables.

HDFC Partners with M1xchange

- ★ Private sector lender HDFC Bank has partnered with invoice discounting platform M1xchange to get onboard the Reserve Bank of India's Trade receivables Discounting System (TReDS) mechanism to cater to MSMEs.
- ★ This move is expected to bring in high liquidity to buyer corporates and MSMEs at competitive interest rates.
- ★ HDFC Bank will benefit from partnering with M1xchange with shorter TAT and lower admin costs in booking additional New-to-Bank (NTB) corporate buyer relationships.
- ★ M1xchange has discounted invoices of over 11,000 MSMEs amounting to more than ₹29,000 crore so far and aims to increase its footprint in digital factoring by 25 per cent to 30 percent in 2022.

Paytm Partners with Piramal Finance

- ★ One 97 Communications Limited owned Paytm partnered with Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd to expand distribution of merchant loans to the small cities and towns of India.
- ★ Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Piramal Enterprises Limited and an established financial services company in India.
- ★ This partnership will expand Paytm's loan distribution business, supported by Piramal Finance's wide network of over 300 branches across India.
- ★ It will also help drive financial inclusion by bringing access-to-credit to small businesses and retailers.
- ★ Merchants can avail loans of up to ₹10 lakh with a tenure of 6 months to 24 months.
- ★ Merchants can avail lone by tapping the 'Business Loan' icon on the Paytm for Business App home screen.

Lifestyle Focused Salary Account

- ★ Kotak Mahindra Bank has launched a lifestyle focused salary account named Kotak Creme.
- ★ This account will offer an upgraded experience to its customers working in MNCs, retails, law firms, unicorns etc.
- ★ The account will be available to all corporates in India and will also come with a host of privileges and rewards across lifestyle, travel, healthcare, dining, skilling and learning experiences.
- ★ Each account will come with preferential banking services, including a complimentary Zen Credit Card.
- ★ The account holders will also get the access to emergency funds through overdraft facility upto five times the salary limit and salary PayDay loan at good interest rates.

SBI Formalizes Policy of Lab-Grown Diamonds

- ★ State Bank of India (SBI) is the first Indian lender to frame a policy to fund makers of lab-grown diamonds which come across as replicas of natural diamond stones.
- ★ These diamonds are priced at a 30-40% decrease from the pure or earth-mined diamonds.
- ★ To start with SBI's Diamond Bourse department in Mumbai, Maharashtra Bandra Kurla Complicated and the Industrial department in Surat, Gujarat has been recognized for the enterprise.

Yes Bank Partners with IBSFIN tech

- ★ Yes Bank and IBSFIN tech, the leading Treasury Tech Solution provider have partnered to explore untapped opportunities emerging out of the digitization of corporate finance.
- ★ The partnership will empower the corporate treasury ecosystem with a robust decision-making tool and automated workflows backed by seamless bank connectivity.
- ★ The partnership provides next-gen technology solutions across Cash, Liquidity, Treasury, Risk, Trade Finance, and Supply Chain Finance functions of corporations.
- ★ It will yield paperless communication between the Bank and corporates across the function of treasury and trade finance.
- ★ From issuing fund transfers to forex transactions to completing trade documentation, the entire process will be digitized and powered by the robust platform offered by IBSFIN tech.

SBI Launched Utsav Fixed Deposit Scheme

- ★ On the occasion of the nation's Independence Day, celebrated as Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the largest lender in the nation- State Bank of India (SBI), introduced a unique term deposit programme called "Utsav Deposit".
- ★ This fixed deposit scheme has higher interest rates and is only available for a limited time.
- ★ On Utsav Fixed Deposit Scheme, SBI is offering an interest rate of 6.10% per annum on fixed deposits with a tenure of 1000 days.
- ★ Senior citizens will be eligible to get an additional interest rate of 0.50% over and above the regular rate.

- ★ These rates are effective as of 15 August 2022 and the scheme is valid for a period of 75 days.

Bima Manthan 2022

- ★ Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has organized its first hackathon – “Bima Manthan 2022” with the theme Innovation in Insurance.
- ★ The hackathon invites participants to identify and develop solutions that have the potential to make the insurance available to every individual in a seamless and swift manner with the use of technology and protecting the interests of the policyholders.
- ★ The participants of Bima Manthan 2022 gets an opportunity to exhibit their innovative solutions and win exciting prizes.

India Become a \$5 Trillion Economy by FY29

- ★ According to former RBI Governor D Subbarao, India may become a USD five trillion economy by 2028-29 only if the GDP grows at nine per cent per annum consistently for the next five years.
- ★ Speaking at Federation of Telangana Chamber of Commerce and Industry on India @75- Marching Towards USD 5 Trillion Economy on the occasion of 75 years of Indian Independence, he announced that there are eight key challenges for India to overcome to achieve the dream of 5 trillion economy.
- ★ Also, for this we need an annual GDP growth of 9 per cent consistently for the next 5 years

Bank of Baroda Launches Special FD Scheme

- ★ The public sector lender Bank of Baroda has launched the ‘Baroda Tiranga National Scheme’ for a limited time period till 31 December 2022 to mark 75 years of Independence.
- ★ It is a special Fixed Deposit scheme offering a higher interest rate.
- ★ Under this, the Bank of Baroda will offer two tenors of 444 days and 555 days, where investors will get interest rates of 5.75% per annum for 444 days and 6 percent interest rates per annum for 555 days.
- ★ The scheme opens on 16th August 2022 till 31st December 2022 and is applicable on retail deposits below ₹2 crore.

Axis Bank Signs MoU with Food Corporation of India

- ★ Axis Bank, India’s third largest private sector bank has signed an MoU with Food Corporation of India (FCI).
- ★ The main objective is to provide “Ultima Salary Package”, a salary account with exclusive benefits and features to all its employees.
- ★ With this MoU, the Bank has reinstated its commitment to offer holistic banking services to the employees of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) sector.
- ★ The Bank will offer numerous benefits such as Personal Accidental cover of up to ₹20 lakhs, Additional Education Grant up to ₹8 lakhs, Total Permanent Disability Cover benefit up to ₹20 lakhs, Permanent Partial disability cover of up to ₹20 lakhs and Air Accident cover of ₹1 Crore.

HDFC Bank Opens First All-Women Branch

- ★ In a first, HDFC Bank opened its all-women branch in Kozhikode, north Kerala. The branch was inaugurated by city Corporation Mayor Beena Philip.
- ★ The branch will have 4 women bankers.
- ★ According to the bank, women constituted 21.7% (21,486) of the workforce as of 31 March 2022.
- ★ The private lender has plans to increase it to 25% by 2025.

RBI Releases Discussion Paper on Charges in Payment Systems

- ★ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released a discussion paper on “Charges in Payment Systems” for public feedback.
- ★ The Feedback may be provided in respect of questions raised, including other relevant suggestions through email on or before 03 October 2022.
- ★ The focus of RBI’s initiatives in the payment systems has been to ease frictions that may arise from systemic, procedural or revenue-related issues.
- ★ The discussion paper covers all aspects relating to charges in payment systems such as Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) system, Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) system and Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- ★ It also various payment instruments such as debit cards, credit cards and Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs), etc.
- ★ The feedback received would be used to guide policies and intervention strategies.

Paytm has Partnered with Samsung Authorized Stores

- ★ Leading digital payments and financial services, Paytm has partnered with Samsung authorized stores across India to facilitate smart payments as well as Paytm Postpaid (Buy Now, Pay Later) at their retail outlets through the deployment of PoS devices.
- ★ With this partnership, Paytm will enable consumers to make digital payments seamlessly at Samsung Authorized stores spread across the country.
- ★ It will provide flexible payment options offered by Paytm including- Paytm UPI, Paytm Wallet, Paytm Postpaid and also all major debit cards, credit cards, and prepaid cards.
- ★ Consumers can easily opt for Paytm Postpaid, which is offered in association with financial partners and get a monthly credit limit of up to ₹60,000.
- ★ In addition to Paytm Postpaid consumers can opt for low-cost personal loans up to ₹2 lakh offered by Paytm’s financial institution partners to purchase goods.

SBI Launches Its First Dedicated Branch for Start-Ups

- ★ State Bank of India (SBI) has launched its first branch dedicated to start-ups in Koramangala, Bengaluru and Karnataka.
- ★ It is to provide end-to-end financial and advisory services to startups.

- ★ It will leverage the large presence of the bank in the market by bringing synergy among all the entities and various departments of the State Bank group to offer a one-stop solution to these corporates and startups starting from the formation of the entity till Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) and Follow-on Public Offers (FPOs) of the companies.
- ★ It would be provided to all the requirements of the private equity (PE) and venture capital (VC) funds and the Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs).

Shiprocket Becomes India's 106th Unicorn

- ★ Shiprocket became the India's 106th unicorn after raising \$ 33.5 million in a funding round co-led by Temasek and Lightrock India.
- ★ Shiprocket was valued at round \$1.2 billion with the fresh round of funding.
- ★ The term unicorn refers to a privately held startup company with a value of over \$1 billion.

Edelweiss MF to Launch India's First Gold and Silver Fund

- ★ The asset management company (AMC) Edelweiss Mutual Fund is scheduled to launch India's first scheme Edelweiss Gold and Silver Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) Fund of Fund (FoF) that offers exposure to gold and silver through a single fund on 24 August 2022.
- ★ The new fund offer for Edelweiss Gold and Silver ETF Fund of Fund (FoF) will close on 07 Sep 2022.
- ★ The fund managers for the scheme are Bhavesh Jain and Bharat Lahoti.
- ★ In September 2022, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) allowed MF houses to introduce silver exchange-traded funds (ETFs) in the Indian market.

IOB Rupay Select Card

- ★ Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Shri. Partha Pratim Sengupta has launched a special variant of debit card IOB Rupay Select Card that can be used for domestic and international payments.
- ★ The Card is designed to help the HNI Customers with add-on freebies at Airport lounges, Gyms, Spa Clubs, etc.
- ★ 6 VIP Customers of the Bank were present at the function to receive the initial issue of the Card.

Banks Seek Time-Bound Data Sharing From CEIB

- ★ To help curb frauds in the banking system, lenders have worked out a 20-point standard format to seek information on borrowers from the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB) before sanctioning big-ticket loans.
- ★ The move for a uniform format is aimed at reducing the delay in getting such information on economic offences.
- ★ The lenders, under the aegis of the Indian Banks' Association (IBA), will approach the finance ministry and the CEIB for digitising the entire process of information exchange to ensure real-time and time-bound information.

- ★ The report usually contains details of the borrowers' track record, dealings with various financial institutions and possible exposure through related parties.
- ★ This will help curb frauds and speed up big-ticket lending.

ADB and Himachal Pradesh

- ★ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India today signed a \$96.3 million loan agreement.
- ★ It is to provide safe drinking water and improve water supply and sanitation services in the state of Himachal Pradesh.
- ★ The project is aligned with the objectives of the Government of India's Jal Jeevan Mission which aims to provide piped water to all rural households by 2024.
- ★ It will also upgrade water supply infrastructure and strengthen institutional capacity to ensure safe, sustainable and inclusive rural water supply and sanitation services.
- ★ The project will strengthen the capacity of the Jal Shakti Vibhag of the Government of Himachal Pradesh and gram panchayat (local government) village water and sanitation committees.

SEBI Joins RBI's Account Aggregator Framework

- ★ India's lending ecosystem, the market regulator Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has joined the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) Account Aggregator framework by allowing depositories, asset management companies (AMCs) and mutual fund houses to become Financial Information Providers (FIPs).
- ★ This will allow customers to share information about their mutual fund and stock holdings with financial service providers.
- ★ Account Aggregator (AA) framework is a non-banking financial institution (NBFC) governed by RBI.
- ★ The AA acts as an intermediary and the information comes from FIPs like banks, AMCs, pension funds, etc, and FIUs that consume this data.
- ★ FIUs, again, can be a bank giving out a loan, an insurance provider or a wealth manager, among others.

Central Bank of India and Protium Finance & Incred Finance

- ★ State-owned Central Bank of India, a Public Sector Bank (PSB) has entered into a co-lending partnership with Protium Finance and Incred Financial Services Limited (IFSL) to offer loans to Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) borrowers.
- ★ Protium Finance will originate and process MSME proposals under the priority sector as per jointly formulated credit parameters and eligibility criteria.
- ★ The Central Bank of India will take into its books 80% of the MSME priority sector loans under mutually agreed terms.
- ★ IFSL will service the loan account throughout the life cycle of the loan.

NPCI has Signed an MoU with Payxpert

- ★ NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has signed an MoU with PayXpert for acceptance of the payment solutions in the United Kingdom.
- ★ The collaboration will make the Indian payment solutions available in the UK on all PayXpert's Android point-of-sale (POS) devices for in-store payments.
- ★ PayXpert would offer QR code payments through Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and later integrate RuPay card payments.
- ★ The development comes on the back of the Indian government's effort to enable the adoption of UPI and RuPay cards in other countries.
- ★ The NPCI has also signed similar MoUs for acceptance of UPI in France, the UAE, Singapore and Nepal.

Mastercard Partners with BASIX

- ★ Mastercard partnered with livelihood promotion institution BASIX Social Enterprise Group to launch an agritech platform BASIX Farmers' Market (BFM) to integrate farmers into the digital economy.
- ★ The digital platform will be used to address the fundamental challenges for small farmers related to price discovery, market reach, payments and credit access leveraging technology from Mastercard and sector expertise of BASIX.
- ★ Through the collaboration, both the companies aim to connect 10 lakh farmers with technology to their benefit, including 200 Farmer Produce Organisations (FPO), being promoted under SMART Project partnering with Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Mission.

HDFC ERGO Launched a Portal for Electric Vehicles (EV)

- ★ Leading private sector general insurance company HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company has launched a portal 'All Things EV' for Electric Vehicles (EV).
- ★ It is the country's first one-stop-solution portal that can be used by existing and potential EV users.
- ★ It is to facilitate and accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles by addressing the needs of current and future EV owners.
- ★ This platform has a roadmap with features like slot booking at charging stations, roadside assistance, RTO services and the creation of an EV community.

IGMS as 'Bima Bharosa'

- ★ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is set to roll out an upgraded version of the Integrated Grievance Redressal System (IGRS), a revamped grievance redressal mechanism as Bima Bharosa.
- ★ It is to make complaint redressal more efficient with the option of customers filing their complaints in 13 regional languages.
- ★ 'Bima Bharosa' will take care of customers' needs in a more time-bound manner.

- ★ SMSes will be sent to the complainant's registered mobile/e-mail ID after registration of the complaint and upon attending by the insurance company.

HDFC Bank Ties up with Tata Neu

- ★ The largest private banker, HDFC Bank announced the partnership with Tata Neu to launch one of India's most rewarding co-branded credit cards.
- ★ The co-branded credit cards will be launched in two variants namely Tata Neu Plus HDFC Bank Credit Card and Tata Neu Infinity HDFC Bank Credit Card.
- ★ The card will enable customers to earn rewards on all spends, both online and in-store in the form of NeuCoins (1 NeuCoin = INR 1).
- ★ Customers will be able to earn 2% NeuCoins with Tata Neu Plus HDFC Bank Credit Card and 5% NeuCoins with Tata Neu Infinity HDFC Bank Credit Card on all purchases on partner Tata brands, both online and in-store.

RBI Lifts Business Curbs Imposed on American Express

- ★ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has lifted the business restrictions imposed on American Express Banking Corp due to the satisfactory compliance demonstrated by the entity to RBI rules.
- ★ American Express is a payment system operator authorised to operate card networks in the country under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- ★ American Express can now issue cards to new customers in India.
- ★ RBI imposed restricted for non-compliance with the RBI circular on Storage of Payment System Data.

Muthoot Finance launches Milligram Gold point program

- ★ Muthoot Finance Limited has launched Milligram Reward Programme for its customers wherein transactions with the company will be rewarded with a certain amount of milligram reward points.
- ★ With this, Muthoot Finance Limited has emerged as the first gold loan Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) to launch a new reward program.
- ★ Customers can participate in this 2-year-long program wherein, for the first time in India a loyalty program will be run in 24-carat gold.
- ★ Every customer referral transaction with the company will earn 20 mg of gold as well.
- ★ Annually, ₹50 crores worth of gold (100 kg) is expected to be paid off through the program.

ICICI Bank Partners with NPCI

- ★ ICICI Bank partnered with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to launch a range of credit cards on RuPay, the indigenous payments network.
- ★ To begin with, the ICICI Bank RuPay Credit Card is available in the Coral variant of the Bank's Gemstone series, which will be followed by Rubyx and Sapphire variants.

- ★ ICICI Bank Coral RuPay Credit Card', the contactless card offers a host of privileges and benefits including reward points on daily purchases like shopping and restaurants, paying utility bills, among others.
- ★ The card also offers exclusive benefits of the RuPay network such as accident insurance coverage to the cardholder and dedicated personal concierge services.

BUSINESS NEWS

Goodfellows, a Senior-Focused Startup

- ★ Goodfellows is a company that provides companionship services for senior citizens and it was established by Ratan Tata, a pioneer in the sector.
- ★ The platform received unspecified startup funding from Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons.
- ★ Goodfellows completed a beta test during the previous six months, and the service is currently offered in Mumbai.
- ★ The following cities are Pune, Chennai and Bangalore.
- ★ The goal of the Goodfellows company is to establish enduring bonds between seniors and recent graduates.
- ★ Every service a grandchild might provide is available at Goodfellows.

SPORTS

First Gold Medal for India at CWG 2022

- ★ In the 2022 Commonwealth Games, weightlifter Saikhom Mirabai Chanu has won the India's first gold medal in the women's 49-kilogram event at Birmingham.
- ★ The 27-year-old lifted a total of 201 kg after the two rounds in snatch and clean & Jerk category.
- ★ Marie Hanitra Roilya Ranaivosoa (172 kg), who finished second in the event while Hannah Kaminski (171 kg) of Canada took the bronze.
- ★ So far, India has won 4 medals in the CWG 2022.

First Player to Score Consecutive Hundreds in T20I Cricket

- ★ France's Gustav McKeon has become the first-ever batter to score two consecutive centuries in T20I cricket.
- ★ He achieved this feat by scoring 101 off 53 balls in the 2024 T20 World Cup Europe Qualifier match against Norway.
- ★ Before this, he had scored his century with 109 against Switzerland and had also become the youngest male player to score a T20 Century.

Weightlifter Achinta Sheuli Bags Third Gold Medal for India

- ★ India's 20-year-old weightlifter Achinta Sheuli won gold in the men's 73 kg division at the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ★ He lifted 143 kg in snatch and 170 kg in clean and jerk to top the field with total 313 kg.
- ★ Sheuli's gold is India's third in the 2022 Commonwealth Games and the sixth medal in total.

Hungarian Grand Prix

- ★ Max Verstappen lead at the top of the F1 Championship following his victory at the Hungarian Grand Prix.
- ★ Mercedes Lewis Hamilton and his teammate George Russell came at the second and third positions respectively.
- ★ Max Verstappen has won 8 races in 2022 so far.

World Champion Sebastian Vettel Announces Retirement

- ★ Sebastian Vettel announced his retirement from Formula 1 after the end of the 2022 season.
- ★ He is a German racing driver who competes in F1 for team Aston Martin.
- ★ His last F1 victory was the Singapore Grand Prix in 2019.
- ★ He became the youngest to win an F1 race in 2007 at the Italian Grand Prix.

Shushila Devi Bags Silver Medal in CWG 2022

- ★ In the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, Shushila Devi won a silver in women's judo 48 kg final, giving India its seventh medal of the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ★ Vijay Kumar Yadav won a bronze medal in the judo men's – 60 kg final. With this win, Yadav gave India its eighth medal in Birmingham 2022.

UEFA Women's Euro 2022

- ★ England won the 2022 UEFA European Women's football championship at Wembley Stadium in London.
- ★ England defeated the eight-time champions Germany by 2-1 in the final.
- ★ It is the first time since 1966 that England won an international trophy.
- ★ The Euro 2022 was the 13th edition of the UEFA Women's Championship which took place from 6 July to 31 July 2022 in England.

4th ONGC Para Games

- ★ Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurated the fourth ONGC Para Games in Thyagaraj Sports Complex in New Delhi.
- ★ The fourth ONGC Para Games is being organized by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) on 04 July 2022.

- ★ Nearly 275 Persons with Disabilities (PwD) are participating in the Games. These all are employees of eight central oil and gas public enterprises.
- ★ The first edition of the ONGC Para Games was held in 2017.
- ★ The ONGC Para Games is a platform to bring in inclusiveness and equity in the human resource of the public enterprises under the Ministry.

Men's Table Tennis Team Clinches Gold at CWG 2022

- ★ India men's table tennis team defeated Singapore 3-1 in the Commonwealth Games final to clinch the gold medal in Birmingham.
- ★ This is India's third gold medal at the CWG in the men's team event having earlier won in 2010 and 2018.
- ★ On 02 August 2022, the Indian Women's lawn bowls team also won its first-ever gold at the Commonwealth Games 2022.

Deandra Dottin has Announced Her Retirement

- ★ Star all-rounder Deandra Dottin has announced her retirement from West Indies women's cricket team as she was no longer able to adhere to the team culture and environment.
- ★ The 31-year-old is the fastest centurion in women's T20 Internationals.
- ★ Dottin, however did not indicate whether she would also retire from Barbados, a side she is representing at the ongoing Commonwealth Games here in Birmingham.
- ★ Dottin is West Indies' most-capped international cricketer having played 124 T20Is and 143 ODIs since her debut in June 2008.

SAFF Under-20 Football Championship Trophy

- ★ India lifted the SAFF U-20 football championship trophy by defeating Bangladesh 5-2 goals in the final at Kalinga stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- ★ India won this championship for the second consecutive time.

Tamim Iqbal to Score 8000 Runs in ODI

- ★ Bangladeshi ODI skipper Tamim Iqbal became the first batter in the country to score 8000 runs in the ODI during the first ODI being played against Zimbabwe in Harare.
- ★ Tamim has now joined the list of great players like Sachin Tendulkar, Sanath Jayasuriya, Chris Gayle, Adam Gilchrist and Sourav Ganguly among a total of 33 batters who have scored over 8000 runs in ODIs.
- ★ He accomplished this achievement after playing 239 matches with a career average of 37.20. He has also scored 14 ODI centuries.
- ★ Tamim is followed by Bangladeshi players Shakib Al Hasan with 6755 runs and Mushfiquur Rahim with 6697 runs.

First Indian to Win Triple Jump at CWG

- ★ India's Eldhose Paul from Kerala, created history by winning the first-ever gold medal in Men's Triple Jump at the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ★ He won the gold medal with the best jump of 17.03m.
- ★ It is also India's first athletics Gold medal at the Birmingham 2022 CWG.
- ★ India's Abdulla Aboobacker also won silver with a 17.02m jump at the event.

P V Sindhu Wins Gold at CWG

- ★ Indian P V Sindhu defeated Michelle Li of Canada to win gold in the final badminton match of Women's Singles at the Common Wealth Games 2022 in Birmingham.
- ★ She defeated Michelle Li by 21-15, 21-13.
- ★ This is the first-ever Commonwealth Games singles Gold of Sindhu's career.

India's 75th Grandmaster

- ★ Pranav became India's 75th Grandmaster.
- ★ He won the Limpedea Open in Baia Mare, Romania to secure his third and final GM norm and attain the Grandmaster title.
- ★ He finished the tournament with 7 points from nine rounds to complete the GM norm requirements.

Commonwealth Games 2022

- ★ The 2022 commonwealth Games conducted in Birmingham was concluded on 08 August 2022.
- ★ India finished fourth in the medals tally with 61 medals comprising 22 gold, 16 silver and 23 bronze in the event.
- ★ India bagged a total of 12 medals in wrestling, the most in any sport in the 2022 Games.
- ★ Australia topped the medals tally with a total of 178 medals comprising 66 gold, 55 silver and 53 bronze.
- ★ England emerged second position with 168 medals which is followed by Canada with 92 medals.

44th Chess Olympiad

- ★ The 44th Chess Olympiad inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Chennai on the 28th of July ended on 09 August 2022.
- ★ India 'B' team comprising D. Gukesh, R Praggnanandhaa, Raunak Sadhwani and Adhiban won the bronze medal beating Germany.
- ★ The Uzbekistan team, which was seeded 14th in the tournament won the gold medal in the men's section.
- ★ In women's section, India 'A' team have won the bronze medal. The team comprising Vaishali and Koneru Humpy, Tania Sachdev and Bhakti Kulkarni.

- ★ The next edition of the chess Olympiad will be held in Budapest in Hungary in 2024.

Tennis Legend Serena Williams Announced Retirement

- ★ American legend Serena Williams, winner of 23 Grand Slam titles, announced her retirement from tennis on 09 August 2022.
- ★ Serena will play her last match at the US Open, which is starting on August 29.
- ★ She is the only woman to have recorded more than 65 wins across all four Grand slams.

AIFF Footballer of the Year

- ★ Manisha Kalyan and Sunil Chhetri have been named the AIFF Women's and Men's Footballer of the year respectively for the 2021-2022 season.
- ★ For Kalyan, it was her first Women's Footballer of the year award.
- ★ While Chhetri has been honoured for the seventh time with this award.
- ★ He was first named for the award in 2007.

ICC Women's T20I Rankings for Bowlers

- ★ Indian pacer Renuka Singh has moved to the 18th spot in the ICC Women's T20I Rankings for bowlers after finishing as the top wicket-taker in the Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ★ Renuka's 11 wickets have rewarded her with a top 20 entry for the first time.
- ★ She made a climb of 10 spots after this performance.
- ★ Australian opening batter Beth Mooney has regained the top spot for batters in the ICC Women's T20I Player Rankings.

Commonwealth Fencing Championship

- ★ Indian ace fencer CA Bhavani Devi won a gold medal at the Commonwealth Fencing Championship 2022 in the Senior Women's Sabre Individual category.
- ★ She defeated Veronika Vasileva of Australia 15-10 to win the title in London.
- ★ Bhavani Devi scripted history by becoming the lone Indian fencer to qualify for Tokyo Olympics after she reached the quarter-final of the 2020 Fencing World Cup in Hungary.
- ★ She qualified through the adjusted Official Ranking Method (AOR).
- ★ At Tokyo Olympics 2020, she won her opening match against Tunisia's Nadia Ben Azizi.

First Cricketer to Play 600 T20 Matches

- ★ Former West Indies all-rounder Kieron Pollard became the first cricketer to play 600 T20 matches.
- ★ The hard-hitting batter achieved this landmark during his side's London Spirit's match against Manchester Originals during the ongoing The Hundred tournament at Lord's.
- ★ He has scored 11,723 runs across 600 games at an average of 31.34.

- ★ He has the best individual performance of 104.
- ★ Pollard has scored one century and 56 half-centuries in the format.
- ★ Behind him are players Dwayne Bravo (543 matches), Shoaib Malik (472), Chris Gayle (463) and Ravi Bopara (426).

First Khelo India Women's Hockey League

- ★ The first Khelo India Women's Hockey League under-16 will be held at the Major Dhyanchand Stadium in New Delhi between 16 August and 23 August 2022.
- ★ According to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, a total of 16 teams from across the country are participating.
- ★ A total of 56 matches will be played and over 300 players will compete in Phase 1 of the league.
- ★ The Sports Authority of India has allocated a total of 53.72 lakh rupees for 3 phases of the competition, which includes Prize money of 15.5 lakh rupees.

2022 UEFA Super Cup

- ★ Real Madrid defeated Eintracht Frankfurt 2-0 to win the 2022 UEFA Super Cup in Helsinki, Finland.
- ★ The UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League champions compete in the annual football tournament known as the UEFA Super Cup.
- ★ Real Madrid overcame Eintracht Frankfurt, the Europa League champions to win the championship for the seventh time.
- ★ Casemiro wins player of the game.

Football Tournament - Durand Cup

- ★ The 131st edition of Asia's oldest football tournament - Durand Cup will begin on 16 August 2022.
- ★ The opening match will be played between FC Goa and Mohammedan SC at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata.
- ★ Of the 20 teams, 11 teams will be the clubs that play Indian Super League, five teams will be from I-League and four teams from the Armed forces.
- ★ For the first time, the tournament is being held in multiple cities.
- ★ West Bengal, Assam and Manipur are hosting the Durand Cup 2022. The matches will be played in Salt Lake Stadium (Kolkata, West Bengal), Naihati Stadium (Naihati, West Bengal), Kishore Bharati Stadium (Kolkata, West Bengal), Khuman Lampak Stadium (Imphal, Manipur) and Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium (Guwahati, Assam).

FIFA Suspends All India Football Federation (AIFF)

- ★ FIFA, the apex football body announced that it has decided to suspend the All-India Football Federation (AIFF) with immediate effect and the decision was taken unanimously by the Bureau of the FIFA Council.

- ★ The decision has been taken due to improper influence from third parties, which constitutes a serious violation of the FIFA Statutes.
- ★ The suspension will be removed whenever an order to form a committee of administrators to assume the responsibilities of the AIFF Executive Committee is revoked and the AIFF administration regains full control of the AIFFs.

Kevin O'Brien Announces Retirement

- ★ Ireland's star all-round cricketer Kevin O'Brien announced retirement from international cricket career.
- ★ He holds the record for the fastest ICC Men's Cricket World Cup century.
- ★ He represented Ireland in three Tests, 153 ODIs and 110 T20s, scoring 5850 runs and 172 wickets.
- ★ He first rose to world-wide fame in the 2011 ICC World Cup when he hit a match winning 113 runs off just 63 balls against England.

First Indian to Play in UEFA Women's Champions League

- ★ Young striker Manisha Kalyan became the first Indian footballer to play at the UEFA Women's Champions League.
- ★ Kalyan replaced Cyprus' Merilena Georgiou in the 60th minute at the Makareio Stadium, as Apollon Ladies FC beat Latvian top flight club SFK Riga 3-0 in their UWCL opener.
- ★ She has become the fourth Indian woman footballer to sign for an overseas club.
- ★ She was awarded the AIFF Women's Footballer of the Year for the 2021-22 season.
- ★ She had produced impressive performances for the national team and Gokulam Kerala in the Indian Women's League.

Crypto Cup

- ★ 17-year-old Grandmaster, Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa created history by winning three games in a row by defeating five times World chess Champion, Magnus Carlsen at the FTX Crypto Cup, the American finale of Champions Chess Tour, in Miami.
- ★ In May 2022, he defeated Magnus Carlsen at the Chessable Masters online rapid chess tournament.
- ★ He procured the worldwide master title at 10 years old, the youngest to do so and the grandmaster title at age 12, the second youngest to achieve this.

U-20 World Wrestling Championship

- ★ 17-year-old Haryana wrestler Antim Panghal has become the first Indian woman wrestler to win gold medal at Under-20 World Wrestling Championship in Sofia, Bulgaria.
- ★ She scored an 8-0 win over Atlyn Shagayeva of Kazakhstan in 53kg category.
- ★ Antim Panghal belongs to Haryana's Bhagana village in the Hisar district.

- ★ It was the 45th edition of the U-20 World Wrestling Championship.

World Cadet Judo Championships

- ★ Indian judoka Linthoi Chanambam won the gold medal at the world cadet judo championships 2022 in the women's -57kg category in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- ★ The 15-year-old judoka outclassed Brazil's Bianca Reis in the 57-kg category final.
- ★ She became the first Indian judoka to win a medal at any age-group category of the World Championships.
- ★ She also won the silver medal at the 2021 Asia-Oceania Junior Championships and bronze at the 2021 Asia-Oceania Cadet Championships.

BWF World Championship Title

- ★ World number one shuttler Viktor Axelsen clinched his second BWF World Championships title after beating Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn in Tokyo.
- ★ It is his third major title in a year, he won the Tokyo Olympics crown and followed it up with the All-England title.
- ★ The women's singles title has been retained by Japan's reigning champion Akane Yamaguchi.
- ★ Yamaguchi defeated China's Olympic champion Chen Yufei 21-12, 10-21, 21-14 in the final.
- ★ This is her second title of the year, after lifting the trophy at the All England Open in March.

Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympic Games

- ★ In Rajasthan, Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympic Games have started in more than 11,000 panchayats on 29 August 2022.
- ★ Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the games at the state-level function organised at Pal Panchayat of Luni block in Jodhpur district.
- ★ About 2 lakh 25 thousand teams are participating in these games.
- ★ Under the Rural Olympics, 6 sports-Kabaddi, Shooting Ball, Volleyball, Hockey, Kho-Kho and Tennis Ball Cricket are being played.
- ★ The state government claims that the Rural Olympics is one of the biggest sporting events in the world.

Lausanne Diamond League Meet Title in Javelin Throw

- ★ Tokyo Olympics gold medallist Neeraj Chopra has won the javelin throw competition at the Lausanne Diamond League with a best throw of 89.08 metre.
- ★ With his, Neeraj became the first Indian to clinch the prestigious Diamond League Meet title.
- ★ Neeraj has thus qualified for the Diamond League Finals, which will take place in Zurich, Switzerland from 07September- 08 September, 2022.
- ★ He has also now qualified for the 2023 World Championships.

Belgian F1 Grand Prix

- ★ Red Bull's Max Verstappen won the Belgian Formula 1 Grand Prix.
- ★ Red Bull's Sergio Perez and Ferrari's Carlos Sainz finished at second and third positions respectively.
- ★ Verstappen has now won nine of this season's 14 races.
- ★ It was his 71st podium finish and he collected 26 points from this race.

Abu Dhabi Masters

- ★ The 28th Dhahi Masters Chess Tournament was won by Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi with 7.5 points.
- ★ Arjun Erigaisi defeated David Anton Guijarro, a player from Spain in the ninth and final round of the 28th Abu Dhabi Masters Chess Tournament.
- ★ After the most recent Chess Olympiad in India, Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi moved up an incredible 35 Elo rating points to take third place in the live rating list.
- ★ Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi competed in the 28th Dhahi Masters Chess Tournament, winning six matches and drawing three others.

RANKS, INDICES & REPORTS

Asia's Richest Women

- ★ Savitri Jindal with a net worth of \$18 billion has emerged as Asia's wealthiest woman surpassing China's Yang Haiyan.
- ★ Savitri's net worth has tripled in the last 2 years.
- ★ Savitri is the chairperson of OP Jindal Group set up by her late husband, Om Prakash Jindal.
- ★ The company is the third-largest producer of steel in India and also operates in cement, energy and infrastructure.

Kerala Leads in Hosting Legislative Sessions in 2021

- ★ The PRS Legislative Research, a think tank with its headquarters in New Delhi, published the research on the operation of State Assemblies for 2021.
- ★ Kerala regained first place in 2021 with the nation's longest House session at 61 days.
- ★ Karnataka came in second with 40 sitting days, followed by Tamil Nadu with 34.
- ★ The guidelines for how legislatures should operate were set forth by the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (2000–2002), which was presided over by former Chief Justice of India M.N. Venkatachaliah.
- ★ The Houses of State/UT legislatures should convene for at least 50 days a year for those with fewer than 70 members like Puducherry and at least 90 days for those with more members.

Russia Becomes India's Third-Largest Coal Supplier

- ★ Russia became India's third-largest coal supplier in July 2022.
- ★ Russia has historically been the sixth-largest supplier of coal to India, behind Indonesia, South Africa, Australia and the United States, with Mozambique and Colombia alternately featuring in the top five.
- ★ According to the data from Indian consultancy Coalmint, Russia became India's third-largest coal supplier in July, with imports rising by over a fifth compared with June to a record 2.06 million tonnes.

India Ranks Third in Start-Up Ecosystem

- ★ Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh announced that India ranks 3rd in the Start-Up ecosystem and in terms of the number of Unicorns in the world.
- ★ There are currently 105 unicorns out of which 44 were born in 2021 and 19 in 2022.
- ★ India in its 75th year of Independence is now home to 75 thousand StartUps.
- ★ 49 per cent of the start-ups are from tier-2 and tier-3 cities.

Most Trusted Institutions

- ★ According to a survey by Ipsos India, Defence forces, Reserve Bank of India and Prime Minister of India are the three most trusted institutions in the country.
- ★ The Supreme Court of India came fourth and it was followed by the Central Bureau of Investigation CBI.
- ★ Defence Forces with at least 2 in 3 (65 per cent of respondents) was ranked first, followed by Reserve Bank of India with 1 in 2 (50 per cent).
- ★ Prime Minister of India as an institution was at the third spot with 49 per cent citizens having trust.
- ★ The Survey was conducted by Ipsos India and interviewed 2950 adults including females.
- ★ The institutions at the bottom of the list were politicians (16 per cent), political parties (17 per cent), community leaders (19 per cent) and religious leaders (21 per cent).

Private Corporate Investment: Growth in 2021-22 and Outlook for 2022-2023

- ★ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revealed the article titled 'Private Corporate Investment: Growth in 2021-22 and Outlook for 2022-23'.
- ★ Rajasthan accounted for the highest share in the total cost of projects sanctioned by banks and financial institutions in 2021-22, retaining the top place for two consecutive years, as per an article published in RBI bulletin.
- ★ Rajasthan was followed by Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat.
- ★ The article uses data on investment intentions by the private corporate sector based on the phasing plans of their project proposals to arrive at the aggregate investment intentions and assess the outlook for investment activity in the near term.

Second-Largest Domestic Airline in Terms of Market Share

- ★ Full-service With a 10.4% share of the domestic market Vistara overtook IndiGo, the market leader with 58.8%, as the second-largest airline.
- ★ The airline is a joint venture between Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines.
- ★ Air India (8.4%), GoFirst (8.2%) and SpiceJet (8%), the third, fourth and fifth-placed carriers, were only a few decimal places apart.
- ★ 7 million passengers were transported by Indian airlines on domestic routes in July, nearly doubling the number from a year earlier but less than the 10.5 million passengers transported in June 2022.

International Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad

- ★ India secured the third rank in medal tally at the 15th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA).
- ★ India held the third position jointly with Singapore with students winning three gold and two silver medals.
- ★ The 15th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) 2022 held in Kutaisi, Georgia from 14 August to 21 August 2022.
- ★ Iran official team with 5 gold medals secured the first position in the medal tally.
- ★ Raghav Goyal won a special prize for the best solution to the most challenging theoretical question.

Debit and Credit Card Market

- ★ SBI tops the chart in debit card market with 30% market share as of June 2022.
- ★ Bank of Baroda secured 2nd place with 8% market share.
- ★ Bank of India, Canara Bank, Union Bank and PNB came 3rd with 5% each.
- ★ HDFC Bank topped the charts in the Credit card segment with a market share of 22%, followed by SBI with 18%.
- ★ ICICI bank secured 3rd with 17%.
- ★ According to the data collected by PGA Labs, public sector banks dominate the market share of debit cards as compared to private bank.

AWARDS & PRIZES

Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) Award

- ★ On 30 July 2022, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar presented an Agriculture Infrastructure Fund Awards in New Delhi.

- ★ Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) was launched in 2020, under the ambitious Aatmanirbhar Bharat Package.
- ★ It is a Central Government scheme that provides medium-long term credit facility for investment in creation of post-harvest management infrastructure and community farming assets.
- ★ This scheme can be converged with the existing Central Government and State Government schemes.
- ★ It was presented to the Banks and States for their contribution to the AIF Scheme.

Karnataka Ratna Award

- ★ Actor Puneeth Rajkumar, who died at the age of 46 in 2021, will be awarded with the Karnataka Ratna Award posthumously.
- ★ Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has announced the Kannada film award on 01 November 2022.
- ★ The Karnataka Ratna is the state's highest civilian award.
- ★ Puneeth Rajkumar was the son of veteran actor Rajkumar.
- ★ He will be the 10th recipient of the state's highest civilian honour.

French Government's 'Chevalier Award'

- ★ Kannan Sundaram, publisher of Kalachuvadu has been conferred with the Knight of the Order of the Merit (Chevalier Award) by the French government.
- ★ He has been awarded for his contribution to the publishing collaboration between India and France.
- ★ Kalachuvadu is a Tamil Nadu based publishing house.
- ★ The Chevalier Award is a French order of merit awarded by the President of the French Republic.

US Heritage Wall of Fame

- ★ Ahmedabad University professor Ramadhar Singh has been marked on the 'Heritage Wall of Fame' of the society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) in the United States.
- ★ With this, he has become the only social psychologist from India to receive this honour.
- ★ To advance psychology as a science in Asia, Professor Singh played critical roles at the national level in India through the University Grants Commission (UGC) and in Asia through the Asian Association of Social Psychology.
- ★ At the international level, he served as a consulting and associate editor of several journals and a member of the Mentor Award Committee of the Association for Psychological Science (APS), US.

World Women Entrepreneurs Award 2022

- ★ Kerala-based entrepreneur Sangeetha Abhayan has won the World Women Entrepreneurs Award instituted by the Junior Chamber International Hong Kong (JCIHK).

- ★ She was awarded for her handloom and handicrafts startups performance in tune with the United Nations sustainable development goals (SDG).
- ★ Sangeetha's online platform named 'eWe' (Empowering Women Entrepreneurs), topped among the competitors for its adherence to UN's SDG that aim at controlling climate change.
- ★ The 2017-founded company was groomed by Mizone Incubation Centre under the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM).
- ★ Currently, the platform is engaged in lending novel designs to clothes allied to the traditional Kannur handloom and Payyanur Khadi.

Miss India USA 2022

- ★ Indian American Aarya Walvekar, an 18-year-old girl from Virginia has been crowned Miss India USA 2022 at an annual beauty pageant held in New Jersey.
- ★ The 2022 pageant marks the 40th anniversary of the Miss India USA, the longest running Indian Pageant outside of India.
- ★ Akshi Jain from Washington was crowned Mrs India USA 2022 and Tanvi Grover from New York was crowned Miss Teen India USA 2022.

Lisbon Triennale Lifetime Achievement Award

- ★ Renowned Bangladeshi architect, researcher and educator Marina Tabassum became the first person from the global south and first south Asian to win the prestigious Lisbon Triennale Millennium Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ★ She will receive an original artwork by the Portuguese artist and sculptor Carlos Nogueira as award during the Lisbon Triennale which begins on 29 September in Lisbon, Portugal.
- ★ Marina Tabassum is known for her architectural designs that break away from commercialism and deeply embed environmental concerns.
- ★ She has also designed bamboo houses at the Rohingya refugee camps.
- ★ The Lisbon Triennale Millennium Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes a young architect or practice to celebrate their achievements and promote their career.

Police Medals in 2022

- ★ A total of 1082 Police personnel have been awarded Police Medals on the occasion of Independence Day, 2022.
- ★ 347 personnel were awarded the Police Medal for Gallantry, 87 with President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service and 648 personnel were awarded the Police Medal for Meritorious Service.
- ★ 109 CRPF personnel and 108 Jammu and Kashmir Police personnel have been awarded Police Medal for Gallantry.
- ★ Seven personnel have been awarded President's Correctional Service Medal for Distinguished Service and 38 personnel have been given the Correctional Service Medal for Meritorious Service.
- ★ CRPF's Charu Sinha bagged 40 gallantry medals, highest in the country among all forces.

- ★ The maximum gallantry medals have been received by the CRPF followed by the Jammu and Kashmir police.

Indian Film Festival of Melbourne

- ★ The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM) is one of the biggest international Indian film festivals outside of the country.
- ★ The 13th edition of IFFM was began on 12 August and will conclude on 30 August, 2022.
- ★ Rithvik Dhanjani hosted the event.
- ★ The yearly event in Australia honors the Indian film industry by displaying some of the country's most important and acclaimed films, TV programs, and online series.
- ★ '83' was awarded the Best Film award.
- ★ Shoojit Sircar and Aparna Sen won Best Director for 'Sardar Udham' and 'The Rapist' respectively.
- ★ Ranveer Singh won the Best Actor for the film '83'.
- ★ 'Mumbai Diaries 26/11' won Best Series.
- ★ Mohit Raina won Best Actor in a series for Mumbai Diaries 26/11.
- ★ Kapil Dev was presented Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ★ Abhishek Bachchan won 'Leadership in Cinema Award'.

Blue Plaque Honour

- ★ London home of Dadabhai Naoroji will get a 'Blue Plaque' honour that is reserved for notable personalities who have lived and worked in London.
- ★ Naoroji was the first Asian who was elected as a Member of Parliament in Britain.
- ★ The Blue Plaque by the English Heritage charity, honours the historic significance of particular buildings across London.
- ★ Naoroji's plaque was unveiled to coincide with the 75th anniversary celebrations of Indian Independence.

UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2022

- ★ UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize was by the Government of the Republic of Korea. It was first given in 1989.
- ★ It is given in honor of Sejong the Great who created the Korean alphabet Hangul.
- ★ Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar is one of the winners of the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2022.
- ★ Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences will be awarded for its 'Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Education Programme'.
- ★ Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences is the largest residential institute for Tribals in the world.
- ★ It began as a residential tribal school in 1993 and became a deemed-to-be-university in 2017.

- ★ The winner receives a medal, a diploma and US\$20,000.

Vayu Sena Medal

- ★ Wing Commander Deepika Misra, a pilot of the Indian Air Force was conferred with the Vayu Sena medal.
- ★ She became the first woman to bag the prestigious award.
- ★ The government also conferred the Vayu Sena medal to Group Captain Rahul Singh and Group Captain Ravi Nanda for their respective roles during India's Operation Devi Shakti, the evacuation mission launched to bring back Indians from Kabul after its takeover by the Taliban
- ★ She has been chosen for her role during a sortie under a disaster relief operation following flash floods in northern Madhya Pradesh.

2022 Pulitzer Prize in Illustrated Reporting

- ★ Bangladesh-born Fahmida Azim working for the Insider online magazine of United States has been selected for the 2022 Pulitzer Prize under the category of Illustrated Reporting and Commentary.
- ★ She is among the four journalists including Anthony Del Col, Josh Adams and Walt Hickey of Insider being published from New York, selected for their work on the Chinese oppression of the Uyghurs.
- ★ The work 'I escaped a Chinese internment Camp' has illustrations by Fahmida Azim.
- ★ Fahmida Azim was born in Bangladesh and now settled in the US. She is an illustrator and story teller. Her work centers on themes of identity, culture and autonomy.
- ★ She has illustrated a number of books including her own notable project 'Muslim Women Are Everything'.

2022 Liberty Medal

- ★ The 2022 Liberty Medal will be awarded to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.
- ★ The National Constitution Center announced that Zelenskyy will be honored in a ceremony in October for 'his heroic defense of liberty in the face of Russian tyranny'.
- ★ Zelenskyy, who has served as the nation's president since May 2019 has also been the recipient of awards such as the Ronald Reagan Freedom Award and the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award.
- ★ The Liberty Medal was established in 1988, is presented to individuals who strive to secure the blessings of liberty for people around the globe.

UNESCO Peace Prize 2022

- ★ Angela Merkel, a former German chancellor has been given the 2022 UNESCO Peace Prize for her efforts to welcome migrants.
- ★ The German chancellor, Angela Merkel famously declared to her people that We can do this, in the summer of 2015 as refugees poured into Europe.

- ★ She subsequently changed her mind about being pro-immigration when support declined from both the general public and her conservative party.
- ★ Her selfless choice in 2015 to accept more than 1.2 million refugees particularly those from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Eritrea.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

The New Delhi Police Commissioner

- ★ Sanjay Arora, director general of the ITBP and a 1988-batch IPS officer has been appointed as the next Delhi Police Commissioner.
- ★ He will replace the previous Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana, an IPS officer from the Gujarat Cadre who retired after nearly 38 years of service.
- ★ He also served in the Border Security Force (BSF) and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). His background is in electrical and electronics engineering, with a B.Tech.
- ★ In August 2021, Arora was named Director General of the paramilitary Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

Director General of SSB Takes Additional Charge of ITBP

- ★ Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) Dr. Sujoy Lal Thaosen took over the additional charge of Director General of Indo-Tibetan Border Police in New Delhi.
- ★ Dr. Thaosen is an IPS Officer of the 1988 batch, Madhya Pradesh Cadre. IPS Sanjay Arora handed over the charge and customary baton to Dr. Thaosen.
- ★ Raised in 1962, the ITBP guards Indo-China borders. It is also deployed in various internal security duties including anti-Naxal operations in Chhattisgarh.

Principal DG of PIB

- ★ Satyendra Prakash assumed charge as Principal Director General of the Press Information Bureau (PIB).
- ★ He succeeded Jaideep Bhatnagar.
- ★ He is an Indian Information Service officer of the 1988 batch.
- ★ Prior to this, Mr. Prakash held the position of Principal DG, Central Bureau of Communication.

World Bank's New Country Director for India

- ★ The World Bank has appointed Auguste Tano Kouamé as the Country Director for India.
- ★ He replaces Junaid Kamal Ahmad who recently completed a five-year term.
- ★ Prior to this, he served as Director of the Department of Human Development and Economic Management in the World Bank Group's Independent Evaluation Group (IEG)

Central Vigilance Commissioner of India

- ★ Vigilance Commissioner, Suresh N Patel has been appointed as the acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) of India in the Central Vigilance Commission.
- ★ He will succeed Sanjay Kothari, who completed his term on June 2021.
- ★ The Central Vigilance Commission is headed by the CVC and can have a maximum of two vigilance commissioners.
- ★ Patel has been working as the acting Central Vigilance Commissioner since June 2022.

Director in PMO

- ★ Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer Shweta Singh was appointed as a director in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).
- ★ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved Singh's appointment for a period of three years from the date of her joining
- ★ Singh is a 2008-batch IFS officer.

CMD of Oil India

- ★ Dr. Ranjit Rath, took over as the new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Oil India Limited (OIL), India's second largest National Exploration and Production Company.
- ★ He succeeded Sushil Chandra Mishra.
- ★ Ranjit Rath is a Geoscientist with experience and expertise of more than 25 years in the field of geosciences.
- ★ Prior to this, he was the CMD of Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Ltd.
- ★ He also held the positions of the CEO of Khanji Bidesh India Ltd and Managing Director of Bharat Gold Mines.

CFO of BharatPe

- ★ Nalin Negi has been appointed as the new chief financial officer (CFO) of Fintech startup BharatPe.
- ★ He is the former chief financial officer of credit cards issuer SBI cards.
- ★ In his new role, Negi will be working towards making the company's EBITDA positive by March 2023 and leading the financial readiness for the company, which is getting ready for an initial public offering (IPO).
- ★ EBITDA stands for earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization.

Vice President of India

- ★ National Democratic Alliance candidate Jagdeep Dhankhar was elected as the 14th vice president of India.
- ★ Dhankhar, a former governor of West Bengal, secured 528 votes against Alva's 182. His victory margin was the highest since 1997.

- ★ He will succeed M Venkaiah Naidu.
- ★ He will take the oath of office on 11 August 2022.

Cabinet Secretary to Get One-Year Extension

- ★ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved extension in service to Gauba as Cabinet Secretary for a further period of one-year.
- ★ This is his second extension on the post.
- ★ He, former Union Secretary was appointed as cabinet secretary for two years in 2019.
- ★ He is a 1982-batch IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre.

First Women Director General of CSIR

- ★ Senior scientist Nallathamby Kalaiselvi has become the first woman director general of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, a consortium of 38 research institutes across the country.
- ★ She succeeds Shekhar Mande.
- ★ Prior to this, Kalaiselvi is the director of the CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute at Karaikudi in Tamil Nadu.
- ★ Kalaiselvi will also hold the charge as secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.
- ★ Her appointment is for a period of two years with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the post or until further orders.

Deputy President of FIDE

- ★ Viswanathan Anand, the legendary Indian chess player and five-time world champion, has been elected as the deputy president of International Chess Federation (FIDE).
- ★ While Arkady Dvorkovich, the incumbent president of FIDE, was re-elected for a second term.
- ★ The elections to the world chess body were held during the FIDE Congress which is being conducted in Chennai, alongside the 44th Chess Olympiad.
- ★ Anand is known for playing quickly early in his career, competed for the classical championship in 1995.

MD & CEO of Unity SFB

- ★ Unity Small Finance Bank on Friday appointed senior banker Inderjit Camotra as its managing director and chief executive.
- ★ Camotra has over 25 years of experience across the country in leadership positions at Standard Chartered Bank, ANZ and Citigroup.
- ★ Camotra was earlier an executive director with Centrum Financial Services, which is the main promoter of Unity Bank, and the other being Resilient Innovations, an arm of BharatPe.

- ★ USF Bank is a new age, the digital-first which was recently elevated to a 'Scheduled Bank' and was included in the Second Schedule of the RBI Act.

CFO of Power Grid Corporation

- ★ Power Grid Corporation of India Limited has appointed Pramod Kumar as chief financial officer (CFO) of the company.
- ★ Prior to this, Kumar served as Executive Director (Finance) of Power Grid Corporation.
- ★ Pramod Kumar is a fellow member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), having experience of 35 years in the power sector involving almost all areas of finance and accounting function.
- ★ Power grid was founded in 1989 and is headquartered in Gurgaon.

Chief Minister of Bihar

- ★ Janata Dal (United) leader Nitish Kumar will be sworn in as the Chief Minister of Bihar for the 8th time.
- ★ RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav will also take oath as the deputy Chief minister.
- ★ Nitish Kumar is the second longest serving Chief Minister of Bihar with this term extending up to 8 years and 117 Days from 24 November 2005 to 20 May 2014.

49th Chief Justice of India

- ★ Justice Uday Umesh Lalit was appointed as the 49th Chief Justice of India.
- ★ He will have a tenure of less than 3 months as he will demit office on 08 November 2022.
- ★ Justice Lalit will be the second CJI who was directly elevated to the top court Bench from the Bar after Justice S.M. Sikri.
- ★ In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution of India, the President is pleased to appoint Shri Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, judge of the Supreme Court of India, to be the Chief Justice of India with effect from 27 August 2022.

Four Independent Directors on RBI Central Board

- ★ The central government has re-nominated Satish Kashinath Marathe, Swaminathan Gurumurthy, Revathy Iyer and Sachin Chaturvedi as part-time, non-official directors on the central board of the Reserve Bank of India.
- ★ Marathe and Gurumurthy have been re-nominated for a further period of four years with effect from 11 August 2022 or until further orders.
- ★ For Iyer and Chaturvedi, re-nominations are for a period of four years after completion of their present tenure on 18 September 2022.
- ★ Also, Iyer and Chaturvedi have been re-appointed as a Member of the Northern Local Board and on the Eastern Local Board of the Reserve Bank of India for a further period of four years after completion of their present tenure on 18 September 2022.

- ★ The role of board members is to advise the central Board on local matters and represent the territorial and economic interests of local cooperative and indigenous banks and also to perform such other functions as delegated by the central board from time to time.

Deputy Secretary in Tourism Ministry

- ★ The Central government has appointed IAS Mr. Shah Faesal as Deputy Secretary in the Tourism Ministry.
- ★ Shah Faesal is an Indian bureaucrat and former Indian politician from Jammu and Kashmir.
- ★ In 2010, he became the first Kashmiri to place first in the Indian Civil Services Examination.

Badminton Players as Brand Ambassadors

- ★ Badminton players Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty was appointed on board as brand ambassadors of Mastercard in India.
- ★ As winners of the Thomas Cup 2022 and Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, these new ambassadors will partner with the company to spread awareness about safety, security and convenience of digital payments in India.
- ★ This partnership, is in line with the efforts of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Digital India.
- ★ Creating awareness about the convenience and safety of digital payments in India is a top priority for the firm.

Delhi HC Appoints Committee

- ★ The Delhi High Court directed the setting up of a three-member Committee of Administrators (COA) to take over the affairs of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).
- ★ The members of the CoA will be assisted by Abhinav Bindra, Anju Bobby George and Bombayla Devi Laishram.
- ★ The IOA is recognized by the International Olympic Committee as the National Olympic Committee for India.

President of Kenya

- ★ Kenyan Deputy President, William Ruto is elected as President of Kenya after he was declared the winner of the last presidential election over five-time contender Raila Odinga.
- ★ Ruto received 50.49% of the vote.
- ★ These elections had been hailed as a step forward for Kenyan democracy because the campaign was marked by political maturity.
- ★ Politicians focused on economic issues, instead of the tribal mobilization that has been a feature of every Kenyan election since independence.

High-Level UN Internet Panel

- ★ UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed India's Electronics and Information Technology Secretary Alkesh Kumar Sharma to the 10-member Internet Governance Forum (IGF) leadership panel.
- ★ The panel's role is to deal with "strategic and urgent issues" of the Internet and provide strategic advice to the IGF.
- ★ He is an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer from Kerala Cadre.
- ★ The panel was set up under the mandate of the IGF and the recommendations in Guterres's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation.

Government Extends Tenure of DCGI Chief

- ★ Union Government has extended the tenure of Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) VG Somani by 3 months.
- ★ His term was set to end on 14 August 2022.
- ★ In 2019, the government appointed as DCGI for a period of three years to head India's apex drug regulatory agency Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO).

MD and CEO of Bajaj Electricals

- ★ Consumer durable products maker Bajaj Electricals elevated its Executive Director Anuj Poddar to the role of managing director and chief executive officer.
- ★ The company has also separated the post of chairman and managing director and its patron Shekhar Bajaj will continue as the executive chairman of the company.
- ★ Bajaj Electricals has undertaken multiple initiatives, including strengthening of the leadership, streamlining of its corporate structure, etc.
- ★ Bajaj Electricals, part of business conglomerate Bajaj Group, had a turnover of ₹4813 crore in FY22.

Interim Prime Minister of Mali

- ★ In Mali, the military has appointed a Colonel Abdoulaye Maiga as interim Prime Minister.
- ★ Before this appointment, Colonel Maiga was working as a Government Spokesman and Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation.
- ★ He replaces the veteran civilian politician Choguel Kokalla Maiga, who was named premier after the military took power in August 2020 and carried out a second coup in May 2021.

Director of NII

- ★ Senior Odia scientist Debasisa Mohanty was appointed as Director of the National Institute of Immunology (NII).
- ★ The appointment was notified by the Personnel Ministry.
- ★ He is currently working as the staff scientist with the NII.

- ★ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Dr Debasisa Mohanty, Staff Scientist.
- ★ He was awarded with the National Bioscience Award for Career Development, one of the highest Indian Science awards, for his contributions to biosciences in 2009.

Secretary to President Droupadi Murmu

- ★ Odisha cadre IAS officer Rajesh Verma has been appointed as the Secretary to President Droupadi Murmu.
- ★ Verma has also served as the Principal Secretary to Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and Principal Secretary of Energy Department, Government of Odisha.
- ★ He replaces Kapil Dev Tripathi, a 1980 batch IAS Officer.

Brand Ambassador of DreamSetGo

- ★ DreamSetGo, a sports experiences and travel platform, has announced Sourav Ganguly as its first brand ambassador.
- ★ The company was launched in 2019 for people to get access to worldwide sporting events.
- ★ It is owned by Dream Sports, a sports technology company that also houses sports brands like Dream11, FanCode, Dream Capital, DreamPay, and KheloMore etc.
- ★ The veteran cricketer will play a key role in promoting its curated experiences offered through its key partnerships with Manchester City, Chelsea FC, ICC Travel and Tours, AO Travel, F1 Experiences etc.

Interim Head Coach for Asia Cup 2022

- ★ VVS Laxman has been named as the interim Head Coach for the Rohit Sharma led team India for Asia Cup 2022, which will be hosted in Dubai.
- ★ He will oversee the team's preparation in the absence of Rahul Dravid, who tested positive for COVID 19.
- ★ He was named the NCA Chief recently after Rahul Dravid vacated the post in November 2021.
- ★ Earlier, he was named head coach for Ireland bound Indian side which was captained by Hardik Pandya.

Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology

- ★ Senior neurologist, N. V. Sundara Chary has been elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology (FAAN).
- ★ It is regarded as one of the world's most prestigious honours in the field of Neurology and Medicine.
- ★ Dr. Sundara Chary has been elected for making valuable contributions in the field of Neurology.
- ★ Chary was also awarded a Speciality certificate in Neurology by the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

Chairman of DRDO

- ★ Scientist Samir V. Kamat was appointed as Secretary of the Department of Defence Research and Development and Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- ★ He will replace G. Satheesh Reddy, who has been named as scientific adviser to Defence Minister, Shri Rajnath Singh
- ★ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has also appointed G. Satheesh Reddy as scientific adviser to the defense minister.
- ★ Dr. Kamat was Director General of Naval Systems & Materials (NS & M) at DRDO since July 2017.

MD & CEO of India's SBICAP Securities

- ★ Indian financial services firm SBICAP Securities, a unit of SBI Capital Markets and part of the government-owned State Bank Group has appointed Deepak Kumar Lalla as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- ★ He replaced Naresh Yadav.
- ★ Lalla joined the State Bank of India (SBI) in 1985 and he has over 37 years of experience.

49th Chief Justice of India

- ★ Justice Uday Umesh Lalit was appointed as the 49th Chief Justice of India.
- ★ President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office to Justice U.U. Lalit at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- ★ He succeeds Justice N.V. Ramana, who retired on August 26.
- ★ He will be in office for 74 days, a tenure shorter than average.
- ★ He was the second Chief Justice of India to be promoted directly from the Bar to the apex Court Bench.

President of IOA

- ★ Athletics Federation of India (AFI) chief Adille Sumariwala declared as the new president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).
- ★ The erstwhile President of IOA Dr. Narinder Dhruv Batra, resigned from the post in July 2022, which led to a vacancy for the post.
- ★ Adille Sumariwalla is an Indian athlete and entrepreneur, popular for representing India at the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

Whole-Time Member of SEBI

- ★ Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan, an associate professor at SP Jain Institute of Management and Research (SPJIMR) was appointed a whole-time member of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

- ★ With this appointment, Ananth Narayan becomes the fourth whole-time member of SEBI, which had been operating with a vacancy for the position since November 2021.
- ★ The other three whole-time members are S K Mohanty, Ananta Barua and Ashwani Bhatia.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

Ministry of Culture Releases the Third Comic Book

- ★ Ministry of Culture has released the third comic book on stories of 20 Tribal Freedom Fighters.
- ★ It recalls the sacrifices of some of the bravest men and women who inspired their tribes and gave up their lives to fight British rule.
- ★ Ministry of Culture as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav has released pictorial books on 75 freedom fighters in collaboration with Amar Chitra Katha (ACK).

New Book Titled 'Lockdown Lyrics'

- ★ Odia literature Sanjukta Dash's collection of poems 'Lockdown Lyrics' was published by Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.
- ★ The poems offer an unfiltered account of the pandemic author's experiences and frustrations.
- ★ She has captured all of humanity's suffering, hopes and aspirations during this society's most pivotal trip in a long time.

New book titled 'Lion of The Skies: Hardit Singh Malik'

- ★ 'Lion of the Skies: Hardit Singh Malik, the Royal Air Force and the First World War' are a book about India's first fighter pilot who served in World War I before the Indian Air Force was formed.
- ★ Stephen Barker is the author of the book.
- ★ It shows in great detail how difficult it was for an Indian to serve in the British military services combating racial prejudice – both institutional and interpersonal.
- ★ Hardit Singh Malik flew as a fighter pilot with both the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) and the Royal Air Force (RAF) during World War I.
- ★ He is also India's first Ambassador to France.

A Book titled 'Do Different: The Untold Dhoni'

- ★ Amit Sinha and Joy Bhattacharjya authored a new book titled 'Do Different: The Untold Dhoni'.
- ★ It commemorates MSD's experiences of struggle, adversity, and victory, including his numerous sixes in Ranchi at his school and his towering six to end a run chase in World Cups.
- ★ The book also documents MSD's performances in the IPL, international cricket, and activities outside of cricket.
- ★ The book was published by India Viking.

A new Book 'Field Guide, Birds of India'

- ★ The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has published a book titled 'Field Guide, Birds of India'.
- ★ It deals with 1,331 avian species found in the country.
- ★ Director of ZSI Dhriti Banerjee announced that it highlights quality photographs of birds unlike other books that mainly used drawings.
- ★ The ZSI organized two activities to advertise the book "Field Guide, Birds of India". One occurred in Kolkata and a second will take place in Mumbai.
- ★ The writers of the book spoke with local birders and explained their motivation for writing this book to them.

'Fish and Seafood' Book

- ★ Minister of Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Parshottam Rupala launched a unique coffee table book titled - Fish and Seafood - a collection of 75 gourmet recipes in New Delhi.
- ★ The Department of Fisheries has come up with this initiative to boost the domestic consumption of fish and seafood, along with popularizing the local fish species.
- ★ The book was launched in the presence of both the Minister of States for Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Dr L. Murugan and Dr Sanjeev Kumar Balyan.
- ★ The recipe book is a highlight of the diversity of fish available within the domestic water bodies and the fish culinary heritage of the country that signifies the diverse cooking and eating styles across the country.

New Book Titled "Bravo Yadav"

- ★ Deepak Singh, an established content creator with more than 15 years of experience in content creation authored a book 'Bravo Yadav'.
- ★ The book is a biography of Kargil's hero and Param Vir Chakra recipient Subedar Yogendra Singh Yadav.
- ★ The biography of Kargil Hero Yogendra Singh Yadav honors the brave and indomitable spirit of the soldiers who refused to surrender before adversities in the Kargil War in 1999.
- ★ The book rightly narrates Yogendra Singh Yadav's courage as a patriot and warrior, surviving the battle of Tiger Hill and being a key stroke towards India's victory against Pakistan.

A New Book Titled 'New India'

- ★ Former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu released a book titled 'New Book: Selected Writings 2014-19'.
- ★ It is a compilation of selected articles of former Union Minister and Padma Vibhushan Arun Jaitley.
- ★ He served as the Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs of the Government of India from 2014 to 2019.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Indigenously Developed Laser-Guided ATGM

- ★ The indigenously developed Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missiles ATGM were successfully test-fired from Main Battle Tank MBT Arjun by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Army
- ★ It was tested at KK Ranges with support of Armoured Corps Centre and School Ahmednagar in Maharashtra.
- ★ Laser Guided ATGM employs a High Explosive Anti-Tank HEAT warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour ERA protected armoured vehicles.
- ★ The ATGM has been developed with multi-platform launch capability and is currently undergoing technical evaluation trials from 120 mm rifled gun of MBT Arjun.

IIT Roorkee Partners with DRDO

- ★ The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has collaborated with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Roorkee to develop defence technology and produce indigenous defence equipment.
- ★ IIT Roorkee in collaboration with the Defence Electronics Application Laboratory (DEAL) of DRDO has developed indigenous radio frequency power amplifiers to meet the futuristic requirements of programmable radios.
- ★ It has designed these amplifiers to be simultaneously able to fulfill the high-efficiency requirements (for thermal management) and good linearity for signal fidelity.
- ★ The designs have been simultaneously optimized for Size, Weight and Power (SWaP). These amplifier units have superior performance achieving high efficiency.

Samudrayaan Mission to Send Humans in Ocean

- ★ The centre will soon begin a mega ocean mission called 'Samudrayaan' to explore the deep-sea waters.
- ★ The Indian Government launched the Samudrayaan mission in October 2021.
- ★ National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai an institute under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), has developed a 6000 m depth-rated Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV).
- ★ It is aimed to develop a self-propelled manned submersible to carry three human beings to a water depth of 6000m in the ocean with a suite of scientific sensors and tools for deep ocean exploration.
- ★ It has an endurance of 12 hours of operational period.
- ★ The Centre had approved the Deep Ocean Mission (DOM) at a total budget of ₹4,077 crore for five years.
- ★ The estimated cost for the first phase for the 3 years from 2021-2024 would be ₹2,823.4 crore.

Russia Launches Iranian Satellite

- ★ Russia launched a Soyuz-2.1b rocket carrying an Iranian remote sensing satellite Khayyam, into orbit from the Russia-leased Baikonur launch facility in Kazakhstan.
- ★ It's named after Omar Khayyam, a Persian scientist who lived in the 11th and 12th centuries.
- ★ Iran has stated that the satellite fitted with a high-resolution camera will be used for environmental monitoring and will remain fully under its control.
- ★ The satellite would provide high-resolution surveillance images with a one-meter-per-pixel definition.
- ★ It is designed to conduct scientific research, test inter-satellite communications channels technology, measure the level of electromagnetic radiation and carry out Earth's remote probing and environmental monitoring.

Virtual Space Museum 'SPARK'

- ★ With 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations marking the 75th year of India's Independence the national space agency, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched virtual space museum called 'SPARK'.
- ★ It is an innovative platform to showcase various Indian space missions and their nuances in an interactive manner.
- ★ It was unveiled by the Chairman of the ISRO, S. Somanath.
- ★ SPARK is the first 3D virtual space tech park created by ISRO. It will show documents, images and videos of various space missions.
- ★ It has a museum, a theatre, an observatory, a garden with life-size rockets, a lakeside café area and several other things.

First 3D-Printed Human Cornea in India

- ★ Researchers in Hyderabad have successfully 3D-printed an artificial cornea (3D-printed Human Cornea) and placed it in a rabbit eye for the first time ever in India.
- ★ A 3D-printed Human cornea made from human donor corneal tissue has been created by researchers from the L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI), Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad (IIT-H) and the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB).
- ★ It is entirely natural, free of synthetic ingredients and safe for patients to use.
- ★ This hydrogel served as the foundation material for the 3D-printed Human Cornea.
- ★ The 3D-printed Human Cornea is biocompatible, natural and free of animal byproducts because it is made of components derived from human corneal tissue.

VL-SRSAM Missile

- ★ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Navy successfully flight-tested the indigenously designed and developed Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VL-SRSAM).

- ★ It was tested from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur off the coast of Odisha.
- ★ The flight test was carried out from a naval ship against a high-speed unmanned aerial target for demonstration of vertical launch capability.
- ★ During the test launch, flight path and vehicle performance parameters were monitored using flight data, captured by various range instruments such as radar, electro-optical tracking system (EOTS) and telemetry systems deployed by ITR in Chandipur.

Artemis 1 Mission

- ★ The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is set to launch Artemis 1 Mission on 29 August 2022.
- ★ NASA's Artemis Missions aim to send the first woman and first person of colour to the Moon as early as 2025.
- ★ Of the three missions planned, Artemis I will be an unmanned flight test of the Space Launch System and the Orion spacecraft around the Moon.
- ★ Through these missions, NASA aims to enable a growing lunar economy by fuelling new industries, supporting job growth and furthering the demand for a skilled workforce.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Day against Trafficking in Persons

- ★ World Day against Trafficking in Persons is observed every year on 30 July.
- ★ The day aims to educate people that trafficking in persons is considered to be a crime, including the exploitation of women and children for tragic jobs of forced labour and sex.
- ★ The theme for the year 2022 is 'Use and abuse of technology'.
- ★ It was first observed in the year 2013 by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to raise awareness about the ordeal of human trafficking victims and the ways to safeguard their rights.

World Ranger Day

- ★ World Ranger Day is celebrated every year on 31 July.
- ★ It is to recognize Park Rangers' contributions to the protection of the environment.
- ★ The International Ranger Federation was established in the year 1992.
- ★ It was founded by the SCRA (Scottish Countryside Rangers Association), the CMA (Countryside Management Association) and the ANPR (U.S. Association of National Park Rangers), which represents rangers in Wales and England.

World Breastfeeding Week

- ★ World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated every year from 01 to 07 August.

- ★ During this week, organizations around the world hold events to promote breastfeeding and support mothers who are breastfeeding.
- ★ In order to support and encourage breastfeeding, the World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) created a memorandum in 1990.
- ★ Following this, the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) was established in 1991.

U.S. Coast Guard Day

- ★ U.S. Coast Guard Day is celebrated every year on 04 August.
- ★ Since 1790, the U.S. Coast Guard has kept the nation's waterways safe, playing a critical role in national security.
- ★ The day honors the establishment of the U.S. Coast Guard and the courageous work of the service members of the Coast Guard.
- ★ The United States Coast Guard was established on 4 August 1790 by Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton and was later on known as the Revenue Marine.

Partition Horrors Remembrance Day

- ★ The University Grants Commission (UGC) has announced all Universities and Colleges to observe 14 August as Partition Horrors Remembrance Day.
- ★ They have been asked to organize programmes and seminars to commemorate the sufferings and sacrifices of millions of Indians during the partition in 1947.
- ★ UGC chairman Prof M. Jagadesh Kumar announced that it is important to encourage students, staff and faculty members to participate in the observance of 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' in large numbers.

National Handloom Day

- ★ National Handloom Day is celebrated annually on 07 August.
- ★ This day is observed annually to create awareness among the public about the handloom industry and the role played by it in India's socio-economic development.
- ★ In July 2015, the Union government decided to celebrate 7 August as National Handloom Day.
- ★ The day is commemorated to make the people aware about the importance of the handloom industry.
- ★ The day also commemorates the Swadeshi movement that began in 1905.

National Javelin Day

- ★ The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) celebrated 07 August as the National Javelin Day to honour Neeraj Chopra.
- ★ It was on 2021, that Neeraj produced the 87.58m effort in Tokyo to secure India's first track and field gold medal in the Olympic Games.

- ★ The day is also an important attempt to attract more youth towards the sport and get champions ready for a bright future in athletics ahead.

The Quit India Movement Day

- ★ The Quit India Movement is celebrated every year on 08 August.
- ★ It is marked and observed by paying tribute to freedom fighters who without a doubt laid their lives for the country and its people.
- ★ The Quit India Movement was launched by Mahatma Gandhi on 8 August 1942 at the Bombay session of the All-India Congress Committee (AICC).
- ★ During the launch of the movement, the father of the nation delivered a speech amid a 'do or die' situation.
- ★ He demanded that the British must leave India immediately or face dire consequences.

International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

- ★ International Day of the World's Indigenous People is celebrated every year on 09 August.
- ★ The day is aimed to promote and protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples around the world.
- ★ It was first announced by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1994.
- ★ The theme for the year 2022 is 'The Role of indigenous Women in preservation and transmission of traditional knowledge'.
- ★ The day marked the first meeting in 1982 of the UN Working Group on indigenous populations.
- ★ The UN General Assembly also declared 1995-2004 as the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples.
- ★ It declared the decade 2005-2015 as the Second International Decade.

World Biofuel Day

- ★ World biofuels day is observed every year on 10th August to honour the inventor of the diesel engine.
- ★ It is to create awareness of the non-fossil fuel against the conventional fossil fuel among the people for a better environment.
- ★ World Biofuel Day is celebrated on August 10 in memory of Sir Rudolf Diesel, the creator of the diesel engine.
- ★ It is being observed by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas since 2015.

World Lion Day

- ★ World Lion Day is being observed every year On 10 August.
- ★ The day aims to spread awareness about lions and the urgent need to strive for their conservation.

- ★ Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Bhupender Yadav announced that Asiatic Lions population has shown a steady increase with an increased rate of nearly 29 per cent.
- ★ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, launched the “Asiatic Lion Conservation Project” with an aim to protect and conserve lions.
- ★ First World Lion Day was observed in 2013 to safeguard lions in their natural environment.

World Elephant Day

- ★ World Elephant Day is observed every year on 12 August.
- ★ The day was first observed on 12 August 2012.
- ★ It was co-founded by Canadian filmmaker Patricia Sims and the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand, an initiative of HM Queen Sirikit.
- ★ Since 2012, the day is marked with an aim to reach out to people and educate them on plight of elephants.
- ★ The main aim of World Elephant Day is to make people aware of better treatment of captive elephants and against their illegal poaching and trade for ivory.

International Youth Day

- ★ International Youth Day is commemorated every year on August 12.
- ★ This day is observed to draw attention to the issues and challenges that young people around the world face.
- ★ These issues can range from mental health to civic responsibility, inclusion to accessibility.
- ★ The theme for the year 2022 is ‘Intergenerational solidarity Creating a world for all ages’.
- ★ The day was designated by the United Nations in 1999 and was first observed on 12 August 2000.

International Left-handers Day

- ★ International Left-handers Day is celebrated every year on 13 August.
- ★ It is to recognize the distinctiveness and distinctions of left-handers and to spread awareness of the benefits and drawbacks of having a left hand in a world that is largely right-handed.
- ★ According to a 2019 Oxford University study, left-handers are likely to have stronger linguistic abilities than their right-handed counterparts.
- ★ Dean R. Campbell, commemorated the day for the first time in 1976.
- ★ The Lefthanders International Club was established in 1990 to promote left-handedness and communicate with businesses about the creation of products for left-handed people.

Independence Day

- ★ Independence Day is celebrated annually on 15 August in India commemorating the nation’s independence from the United Kingdom on 15 August 1947.
- ★ In 2022, the nation is marking 75 years of the country’s independence from British rule.

- ★ The Indian Independence movement began during World War I and it was led by Mahatma Gandhi.

World Humanitarian Day

- ★ World Humanitarian Day is commemorated every year on 19 August.
- ★ It is celebrated to pay tribute to humanitarian workers killed and injured in the course of their work.
- ★ It is also to honor all aid and health workers who continue, despite the odds to provide life-saving support and protection to people most in need.
- ★ The UN General Assembly designated this day as World Humanitarian Day in 2009 to honor the bombing.

World Photography Day

- ★ World Photography Day is observed every year on 19 August.
- ★ It pays tribute to the art of photography and also encourages those who are passionate about it to come together and share their work.
- ★ The first durable color photograph was captured in 1861 while the first digital photograph was created in 1957, two decades earlier than the invention of the digital camera.
- ★ The inception of this day dates back to 1837 when Frenchmen Joseph Nicephore Niepce and Louis Daguerre invented the 'daguerreotype' which was the world's first-ever photographic process.

Renewable Energy Day

- ★ Renewable Energy Day is celebrated every year on 20 August.
- ★ to create awareness about the importance of renewable resources of energy.
- ★ it is also celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of the late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- ★ The main objective on celebrating this day is to make people aware of the use of natural sources of energy like hydroelectric power, solar energy, wind energy and biogas because the earth's resources are depleting at a dangerous rate every day.

World Mosquito Day

- ★ World Mosquito Day is celebrated every year on 20 August.
- ★ It is a commemoration of a British doctor, Sir Ronald Ross's discovery in 1897 that 'female mosquitoes transmit malaria between humans.
- ★ He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine for his work on Malaria in 1902.
- ★ The theme for the year 2022 is 'Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives'.

World Senior Citizen's Day

- ★ World Senior Citizen Day is observed every year on 21 August.
- ★ It's an effort by the young to acknowledge the problems that our elders face due to their age and raise awareness about those issues.
- ★ The day also recognizes their contributions to the world's advancement as leaders, professionals and entrepreneurs.
- ★ The first celebration was marked on 01 October 1991.
- ★ On 14 December 1990, the first World Senior Citizens' Day was proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

International Day for the Remembrance of Slave Trade and Abolition

- ★ International Day for the Remembrance of Slave Trade and Abolition is celebrated every year on 23 August.
- ★ During the imperialist regimes run by the colonial powers of Europe, the slave trade was a cruel yet common practice.
- ★ The days of August 22 and August 23, 1791, saw the start of the uprising that would play a vital role in the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade led by the European colonial powers.
- ★ The uprising inspired the Haitian Revolution which was led by the Black and mixed-race people against the colonial rulers.

World Water Week

- ★ World Water Week is celebrated from 23 August to 01 September 2022.
- ★ Since 1991, the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) has hosted World Water Week to address global water issues and related international development concerns.
- ★ The theme for the of year 2022 is 'Seeing the unseen: The value of water', which helps us view water in new and fascinating ways.
- ★ World Water Week is a community of changemakers working together to find answers to the world's most pressing water-related issues.
- ★ The Week also serves as a gathering space to expedite progress toward the SDGs and other international activities.
- ★ This year's World Water Week is a significant step toward the UN Water Conference in 2023.

National Sports Day

- ★ National Sports Day is celebrated every year on 29 August.
- ★ The inaugural National Sports Day was observed on 29 August 2012, the birthday of India's renowned hockey player Major Dhyan Chand.
- ★ The day is utilized as a platform to introduce several sports initiatives as well as to plan several sporting events and seminars to raise awareness of the value of physical activity and sports in everyday life.

- ★ In various regions of India, National Sports Day is also known as Rashtriya Khel Divas.

International Day Against Nuclear Tests

- ★ International Day Against Nuclear Tests is observed every year on 29 August.
- ★ It is to raise awareness about the devastating effects of testing nuclear weapons.
- ★ This year marks the thirteenth anniversary of the event.
- ★ On this day, the United Nations organises an event that creates public awareness regarding the effects of nuclear weapons tests, and detonations and further highlights the requirement for cessation of such nuclear tests.

OBITUARY NEWS

NBA Legend Bill Russell

- ★ Basketball legend Bill Russell, who led the Boston Celtics to win 11 NBA championships passed away. He was at the age of 88.
- ★ He was the league's first Black coach. A five-time Most Valuable Player (MVP), he was also outspoken on racial issues.
- ★ During his career, Russell led team won record 11 championships the highest in NBA history.
- ★ He had the second highest number of MVP Award after Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Michael Jordan, who won the award six times.

Former Philippine president Fidel Ramos

- ★ Former Philippine president Fidel Ramos, who oversaw a rare period of steady growth and peace that won him the reputation as one of the country's most effective leaders passed away. He died at the age 94.
- ★ He served as the 12th president of the Philippines from 1992 and 1998.
- ★ He also served as the chief of staff of the armed forces of the Philippines.

Renowned Bengali Singer Nirmala Mishra

- ★ Popular Bengali and Odia singer, Nirmala Mishra passed away in Kolkata. He was at the age of 81.
- ★ Nirmala Mishra sang various songs in Bengali, Odia and Assamese films.
- ★ Her popular songs are 'Eamon Ekta Jhinuk', 'Bolo to arshi', 'Kagojer phul bole', 'Eai banglar mati tea' and 'Ami to Tomar'.
- ★ She was a recipient of the Sangeet Sudhakar Balakrushna Das Award as an honor for her lifetime contribution to Odia music.
- ★ The West Bengal government has conferred on her 'Sangeet Samman', 'Sangeet Mahasamman' and 'Bangabhibhushan' awards for her contribution to Bengali music.

Assam Eminent Sattriya Danseuse Garima Hazarika

- ★ Eminent exponent of Assam's classical Sattriya dance Garima Hazarika passed away at the age of 83.
- ★ She was conferred with the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 20006.
- ★ She was also proficient in Odissi and Kathak dance forms.

Marathi Actor Pradeep Patwardhan

- ★ Veteran Marathi actor Pradeep Patwardhan passed away. He was at the age of 64.
- ★ He was known for his performance in films such as 'Chashme Bahaddar' and 'Mee Shivajiraje Bhosale Boltay'.
- ★ The actor also starred in bollywood films including Anurag Kashyap's Bombay Velvet.
- ★ Pradeep Patwardhan was best known for his hit Marathi play Moruchi Mavshi.

Famed Japanese Fashion Designer Issey Miyake

- ★ Issey Miyake, the celebrated Japanese fashion designer and the founder of the eponymous brand, passed away. He was at the age of 84.
- ★ Miyake was born in Hiroshima in 1938.
- ★ He was known to work with traditional and modern fashion techniques during his long career.
- ★ By the 1990's he was celebrated as one of the world's most pioneering designers as he worked with materials from plastic to metal.

Former Athlete PV Kamaraj

- ★ Former International athlete P.V. Kamaraj Passed away in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. He was at the age of 68.
- ★ He was part of the Indian 4x400m relay team that won bronze in the 1979 Asian championships in Tokyo.
- ★ He retired as a Chief Reservation Officer with the Indian Railways and had contributed immensely to athletics in Tiruchi.
- ★ He was represented as part of the Tamil Nadu team and has won a host of medals (including gold, silver, and bronze) in 400m hurdles in National inter-state meets and Open Nationals from 1977-80.
- ★ He was a NIS-trained coach and had trained the Tamil Nadu state team for several years.

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author David McCullough

- ★ Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author and renowned historian David McCullough passed away in Hingham, Massachusetts of United States. He was at the age of 89.
- ★ He was an American author, narrator, popular historian and lecturer.
- ★ His first book was The Johnstown Flood (1968).

- ★ He wrote nine more on such topics as Harry S. Truman, John Adams (2001), Theodore Roosevelt, the Brooklyn Bridge, the Panama Canal and the Wright brothers (2015).
- ★ McCullough won a Pulitzer Prize in 1993 for Truman.
- ★ In 2006, he was given the Presidential Medal of Freedom, one of the United States' highest civilian awards.

Journalist and Emmy Award Winner Uma Pemmaraju

- ★ Indian American Journalist and Emmy Award Winner Uma Pemmaraju Passed away. He was at the age of 64.
- ★ Pemmaraju was born in Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh and grew up in San Antonio, Texas, United States.
- ★ She was a part of various shows such as The Fox Report, Fox News Live, Fox News Now and Fox On Trends.
- ★ She served as a reporter for the San Antonio Express-News and taught journalism at Emerson College and Harvard University.
- ★ She was also awarded The Woman of Achievement Award by the Big Sisters Organization of America.

Ace Investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala

- ★ The 'Big Bull of Dalal Street' and Ace Investor Mr Jhunjhunwala passed away due to multiple health complications. He was at the age of 62.
- ★ Rakesh Jhunjhunwala was born on 05 July 1960 and grew up in a Rajasthani Family based in Bombay.
- ★ Rakesh Jhunjhunwala was a Chartered Accountant (CA) by qualification.
- ★ As per Forbes' Real-time Billionaires Index, Jhunjhunwala is ranked among the top 500 richest billionaires, having a net worth of \$5.8 billion (₹46,000 crore) as of July 2022.
- ★ This also made him the 36th richest man in India.
- ★ He was the chairman of Hungama Media and Aptech Limited.

Former CEO of Deutsche Bank Anshu Jain

- ★ Anshu Jain, Cantor Fitzgerald president and former co-CEO of Deutsche Bank has died. He was at the age of 59.
- ★ Jain, who was born in India spent two decades building Deutsche Bank into one of the world's top universal banks. He was the first non-European to lead the German institution.
- ★ Jain was Co-CEO of Deutsche Bank from 2012 to 2015.
- ★ He resigned from the German lender in 2015 and had been the president of US financial services firm Cantor Fitzgerald since 2017.
- ★ Born in the Indian city of Jaipur, Jain earned his bachelors at the University of Delhi before completing an MBA at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

British Writer Nicholas Evans

- ★ British writer Nicholas Evans, who authored the international best-selling novel “The Horse Whisperer” Passed away. He was at the age of 72.
- ★ Nicholas Benbow Evans was born in 1950 in Worcestershire, England.
- ★ He was an English journalist, screenwriter, television and film producer and novelist.
- ★ His debut novel, ‘The Horse Whisperer’ which was published in 1995 was the bestselling novel in the United States for 1995 as determined to The New York Times.

Former Jharkhand Governor Syed Sibtey Razi

- ★ Former Governor of Jharkhand, Syed Sibtey Razi passed away in Lucknow.
- ★ Razi was associated with the Congress. He was a member of Rajya Sabha thrice.
- ★ Later he was made the Governor of Jharkhand and Assam.
- ★ He served as the Governor of Jharkhand from the year 2004- 2009.
- ★ He started his political career in 1969.

Former Olympic Football Captain Samar ‘Badru’ Banerjee

- ★ Former Indian football team captain Samar ‘Badru’ Banerjee passed away in Kolkata.
- ★ The footballer had captained the national team to a fourth-place finish in the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games, which also included a famous 4-2 victory against hosts Australia in the quarterfinals.
- ★ Banerjee played a total of nine matches for the Blue Tigers, and scored three goals for the country.
- ★ At the domestic level he had won the Santosh Trophy with Bengal in 1953 and also captained the state in 1956.

Kerala’s First Tribal Novelist Narayan

- ★ Kerala’s first tribal novelist and short story writer, Narayan died in Kochi, Kerala. He was at the age of 82.
- ★ He received the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award in 1999 for his first novel ‘Kocharethi’.
- ★ The English translation of this novel titled ‘Kocharethi: The Araya Woman’ won the Crossword Prize in 2011.
- ★ His debut novel “Kocharethi”, which explored the life, history and miseries of the Malayarayar tribe.

Veteran Producer Abdul Gaffar Nadiadwala

- ★ Veteran Bollywood producer of ‘multi-starrer masala films’ Abdul Gaffar Nadiadwala passed away. He was at the age of 92.

- ★ In his film-making career spanning over five decades, he made several memorable movies like 'Aa Gale Lag Ja', 'Lahu Ke Do Rang', 'Shankar Shambhu', 'Jhutha Sach', 'Sone Pe Suhaga', 'Watan Ke Rakhwale' and more.
- ★ He had started his film production and media entertainment company in 1953.

Vijaya Bank Former Chairman Sadananda Shetty

- ★ Former Vijaya Bank chairman and founder and serving Chairman of Soham Group of Companies K. Sadananda Shetty passed away in Nice City, France. He was at the age of 85.
- ★ Mr. Shetty was the chairman of Vijaya Bank which has now merged with Bank of Baroda.
- ★ He also served as the vice-chairman of the Indian Banks Association.
- ★ He was on the boards of Air India and the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India
- ★ He was the current president of the Renewable Energy Developers Association of Karnataka.